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ARAB TIMES

SATURDAY, JUNE 9, 1990/ZULQAD 16, 1410 AH



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32 PAGES 150 FILS

'Indomitable Lions' maul soccer kings in World Cup opener A day the world stood still



Shocking start

MILAN, Italy, June 8, (AP): Fans from Cameroon erupted in joy last night, waving flags, cheering and applauding after their team scored on a header to take a 1-0 lead over Argentina in the opening game of the World Cup.

The "Indomitable Lions" of Cameroon held on to win in one of the biggest upsets in the history of the world soccer championship. Argentina won the 1986 World Cup.

As time expired with the Lions winning 1-0, the Cameroon players dashed around the field, jumping up and down, and hugging each other.

A section of Meazza stadium in Milan filled with Cameroon fans broke into tumultuous celebration when Francois Omam Biyik scored on a header, to give the team its 1-0 lead and, eventually, the victory.

The Cameroon fans cheered, shouted and waved their African country's green, red and yellow flag.

Argentine fans were stunned by their team's loss.

NEWSWATCH

INSIDE: An Arab Times special supplement on Travel and Tourism.

Pages 15-28

Loan for air fare: Sri Lankans seeking employment in Middle East countries are to be assisted by the government through a loan scheme, officials said in Colombo on Friday.

A final sum of 10 million rupees (\$263,000) is to be granted, of which a block loan of rupees 12,000 (\$316) will be allocated to each individual to meet the cost of air tickets, a labour official said.

Beheading: A Saudi Arabian drug trafficker convicted of murder and other crimes was beheaded in public after Friday noon prayers, Radio Riyadh reported.

It quoted an Interior Ministry statement as saying the decapitated body of Rashash Saff Mubarak Al Utaybi was crucified.

The statement said Utaybi had shot and killed a member of the security forces during a battle with a drug-dealing ring that he headed. (Reuters)

Saudis restrict Thai pilgrims: Saudi Arabia has scrapped plans to fly Thai pilgrims to Makkah after receiving reports that workers sponsored by Iran to the Middle East had been given military training, senior Thai officials said on Friday.

Riyadh had planned to send eight planes to Thailand to carry Thais to the annual pilgrimage to Makkah next month.

It has cancelled those flights but will allow Thais to travel on other airlines, the officials said.

When push comes to shove: A Naples motorist wants the man who hit his parked car to pay damages because the accident made his girlfriend pregnant.

The bump caused him to "lose control", he said.

"We were minding our own business when we were hit by the other car and that's when my girlfriend became pregnant," he said in a claim on a Naples car insurance company.

He said that on March 10 they were in his small Fiat Panda overlooking the Bay of Naples when the parked Panda was hit by a larger Fiat Regata.

An insurance company spokesman said the man wanted damages because he and his girlfriend have to get married.

It would be a difficult case for loss adjusters to settle, she said, partly "because of the lack of photographic evidence."

Fastest general-purpose computer: Hitachi Ltd. of Japan said on Wednesday it has developed the world's fastest general-purpose computer.



Isolation
A Romanian baby girl, one of a dozen babies who have tested positive for AIDS, lies in a steel mesh cot in an isolation ward at St Catherine's Children's Home in Bucharest on Thursday. (Raufer wirephoto)

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New 'racist' govt in Israel

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, June 8, (Reuters): Palestinian leaders in the occupied territories predict more conflict and oppression under the new government formed by Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir.

"Extreme racists and advocates of terrorism have become part of the Israeli establishment," said academic Hanan Mikhail Ashrawi, reflecting widespread concern in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"It is clear that Israel has not cast its vote on the side of peace but is pursuing a policy of conflict and oppression."

But Faisal Al Husseini, the most senior pro-PLO figure in the territories, told Reuters, "we are ready to deal with this government. If it wants peace we are ready and if it seeks war it should know that no one can destroy the Palestinian uprising."

Shamir formed the most right-wing government in Israeli history today, a coalition of six rightist and religious parties.

It includes vocal anti-Arabs and hardliners such as former defense minister Ariel Sharon who says the government should "restore law and order" by crushing a 30-month Palestinian revolt in the occupied territories.

Saeed Erekat, another West Bank university professor, said: "When you drop the political option - and this government was formed to bury the peace option - it means the other option is conflict."

Some Palestinians said they worried more about an increase in Jewish settlements in the occupied territories than about more repression.

(See Page 9)



A Brazilian World Cup soccer fan wearing a wig, grimaces during a training session of the Brazilian squad in Ascoli, northern Italy on Thursday. (Reuter wirephoto)



A Cameroonian soccer fan waves the national banner of his country during opening ceremony of the World Cup soccer in Milan's stadium yesterday. (Reuter wirephoto)

Russia moves toward greater sovereignty

Uzbek declares emergency

YESTERDAY INTO THE central square to honour the victims of four days of fighting between Uzbeks and Kirghiz which has killed at least 78.

The fighting erupted last Monday in the Kirghiz town of Osh over the allocation of land between the two ethnic groups.

"There is a real danger of the events in the Osh region degenerating into a conflict between the two republics," Karimov's message said.

Tass news agency said Islam Karimov imposed a state of emergency in a number of districts around Andizhan, on the border between the two republics, and appealed to Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev to help quell the fighting.

In Frunze, capital of Kirghizia, thousands of mourners poured silent

remained tense and an official there said there had been sporadic skirmishes near the town.

■ Lawmakers in the Russian republic took an initial step today toward greater sovereignty by approving a draft proclamation that would give their laws priority over central government legislation Tass said.

The preliminary vote by the Congress of People's Deputies of the Russian republic could set the giant republic on the road to sovereignty from national law and confrontation with Moscow.

I love you daddy

Tears for Terry

BEIRUT, June 8, (AP): Lebanon's eight daily newspapers yesterday published a letter to American journalist Terry Anderson, the longest-held Western captive from his daughter Sulome who was born after his abduction.

The prestigious An Nahar and four other dailies printed the original English text of the letter that Sulome addressed to her father on her fifth birthday in the hope that Anderson will be allowed to read it.

Sulome, in the letter addressed to "my darling daddy," wrote: "Tomorrow is my birthday. I will be five years old. I know you have never seen me."

"I also have never seen you, but my mummy tells me everything about you and how you used to call me active little baby," the letter said.

"I love you daddy. I pray for you and the others every night," she concluded.

348 run for 50 seats

Kuwaitis go to polls tomorrow

tees.

The Education Ministry has designated 50 schools as headquarters for the committees, while the Justice Ministry appointed heads of committees.

The Interior Ministry is considering introduction of a state-of-the-art election system where voters can vote just by touching the names of candidates on a computerised screen, according to head of the ministry's computerised data centre Fahd Jaafar.

Jaafar told Kuna in an interview the new system will be introduced in the United States and that he discussed it with US officials during his recent visit there.

The Interior Ministry official said however, the new system is still being studied here and will not be employed in next Sunday's national council elections.

Elaborating on the new system, he said its use would be very easy for the layman and users need not have computer operation background.

Key advantages of the system will be greater security and absolute confidentiality, Jaafar said.

He added that the Interior Ministry's computer data centre can design and develop a similar

(Continued on Page 11)

Rebels kill Sayeed uncle

India considers Pakistan reply

NEW DELHI, June 8, (Agencies): India is seriously considering Pakistan's response to its initiative to defuse rising military tension in the subcontinent, a Foreign Office spokesman said today.

Pakistan has suggested that foreign secretaries of the two countries meet this month on the question of Kashmir.

Indian-ruled Kashmir, where Muslim militants are fighting for secession, lies at the heart of deteriorating ties between the two countries.

"The response is receiving our serious consideration," the Indian spokesman said. "Unfortunately, the Pakistani response is hedged by certain reservations, which is somewhat discouraging."

India, which accuses Pakistan of arming and training Kashmiri militants, has suggested to Pakistan that the two countries notify each other of military exercises and that their armed forces maintain close contacts.

Pakistan's Foreign Secretary Tanvir Ahmed Khan, while suggesting an urgent meeting with his Indian counterpart, said the Indian proposal failed to mention Kashmir.

A meeting between the two foreign secretaries was unlikely to take place as early as this month, official sources in New Delhi said.

India and Pakistan have already fought three wars, including two over Kashmir, since independence from Britain in 1947.

Meanwhile, militants battling New Delhi's rule of Kashmir have shot dead the uncle of Indian Home Minister Mufti Mohammad Sayeed in their

second attack on the minister's family.

Police said today six militants forced their way into the home of 70-year-old Ghulam Hassan Shah last night and killed him.

Shah lived in Sayeed's home village, Bajehara, 40 km (25 miles) south of Jammu and Kashmir state's summer capital, Srinagar.

Days after Sayeed's appointment as India's first Muslim home (interior) minister in December, the militants kidnapped his daughter Rubiya.

They freed her in exchange for five of their jailed colleagues and turned the episode into a propaganda victory which helped ignite popular revolt in the Muslim-majority Kashmir.

In New Delhi, President Ramaswamy Venkataraman announced that Virendra Varma, a politician from Sayeed's Janata Dal Party, was the new governor of Punjab.

Today hundreds of Kashmiris demonstrated in Srinagar's old quarter, accusing security forces of shooting dead a two-year-old boy, Saqib Bashir.

The protesters said security forces, searching nearby homes after their vehicles were attacked yesterday, opened fire on Bashir's family. The boy was killed and his parents critically wounded, the demonstrators said.

Militants also attacked a waterfront hotel in Srinagar yesterday, shooting and wounding at least four Indian paramilitary policemen living at the resort as they swam in picturesque lake Dal.



Sulome, on her 11th birthday in Nicosia. In a letter she wrote, to her father, she says: "I love you daddy, I pray for you" (Reuter wirephoto)

Jackson suffered cartilage swelling

LOS ANGELES, June 8. (Reuters): Pop star Michael Jackson has left hospital five days after being admitted with chest pains, a hospital supervisor said.

Jackson's doctor, Mark Zatzkis, said the singer, who left hospital late yesterday but was expected to return for outpatient treatment, had bruised his ribs during a vigorous dance rehearsal.

Jackson, 31, has undergone a lot of stress recently, with the deaths of his grandmother and close friend Sammy Davis Jr., his public agent Bob Jones said.

"He is very concerned about his physical condition because we have an album well underway," Jones added. Jackson's current album is seven weeks behind schedule.

Jackson visited close friend Elizabeth Taylor before leaving St John's hospital. The film star has been in hospital for seven weeks with pneumonia.

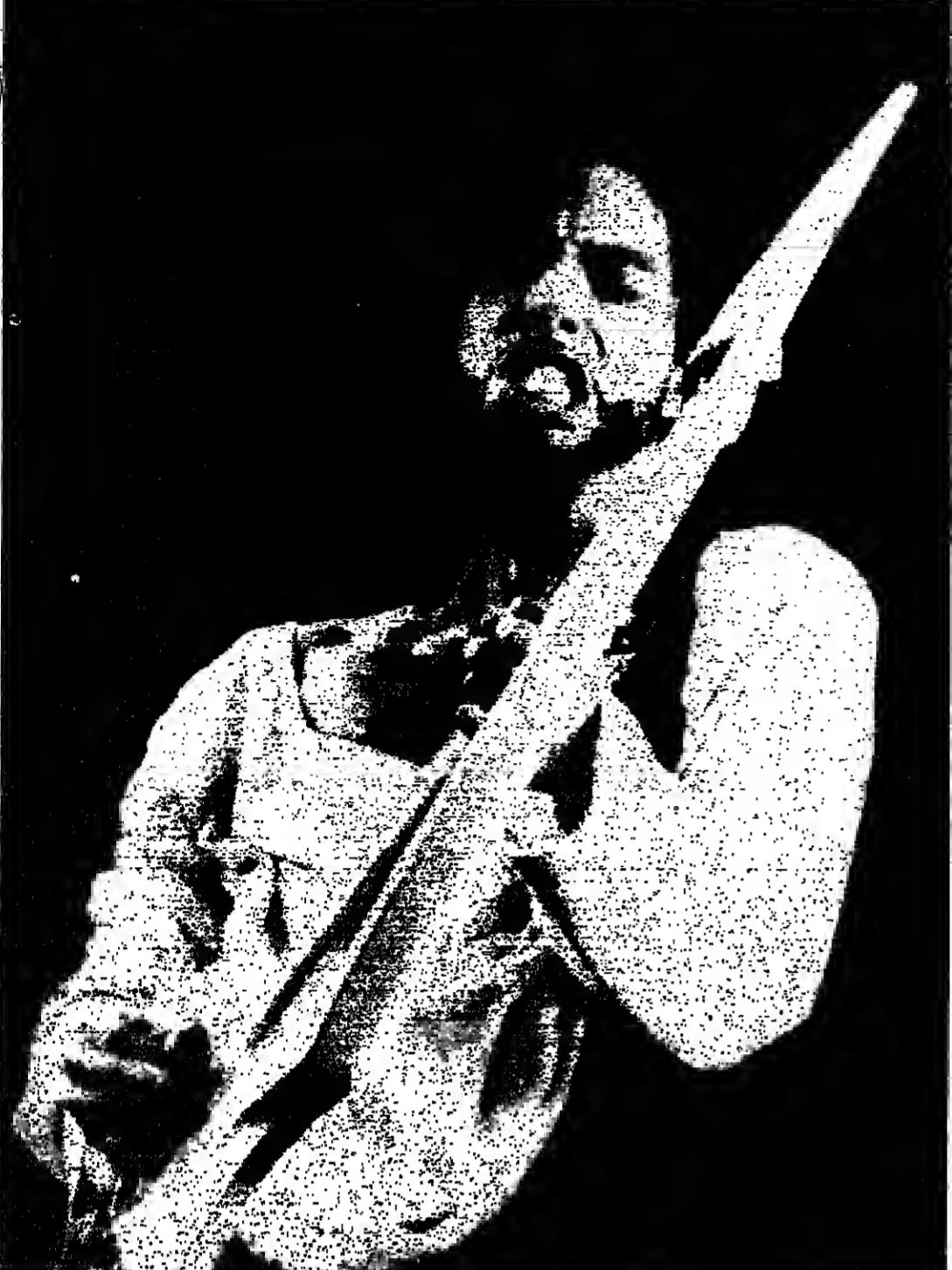
The cause of Jackson's condition had been a mystery since he was admitted with the chest pain Sunday night. Tests revealed that he was suffering from costochondritis, or a cartilage inflammation affecting the front part of his ribs, said Jones.

"When tests were finally conducted, the extensive tests and X-rays revealed no physical abnormalities other than the inflammation," Jones said. Jackson is expected to receive further treatment "probably within 48 hours," Jones said.

He said the inflammation can be caused by "over-exertion and stress and is usually extremely painful."

The clean-living, lean popstar, who shuns alcohol, cigarettes and junk food, has no history of serious health problems.

Jackson ventured from his singing brothers, the Jackson 5, with the Grammy-winning solo album "Off the Wall" in 1980. He has recorded only two albums in the past seven years — "Thriller" in 1983 and "Bad" in 1987. The albums sold a combined 60 million-plus copies, earning him an estimated \$100 million.



Prince in concert

US rock superstar, Prince, gives the opening performance to his 1990 concert tour through West Germany before some 10,000 enthusiastic fans in the Ostsee-Halle in Kiel on the evening of June 6. (Reuter wirephoto)

Jagger denies 'German affair'

LONDON, June 8. (AP): Mick Jagger denied today that he was romantically involved with a blonde German model who he said was "making the most of the few minutes with me" by giving interviews to reporters.

British tabloid newspapers had a field day today with a picture of the Rolling Stones' lead singer and his blonde: 24-year-old model Christina Haack and Jerry Hall, the Texas model and mother of his two children.

Several of the newspapers also showed a woman attempting to deliver a huge bouquet of flowers to Miss Hall's London home claiming they were the 47-year-old rock star's attempt to apologize.

Miss Haack told reporters she dated Jagger for three days while the Rolling Stones were on tour in Munich. She said they dined, he came home to her apartment and they are "very, very good friends."

Jagger said he only spoke with Miss Haack in a club for a few minutes and did not visit her apartment.

Madonna tops US charts

Second time in 'Vogue'

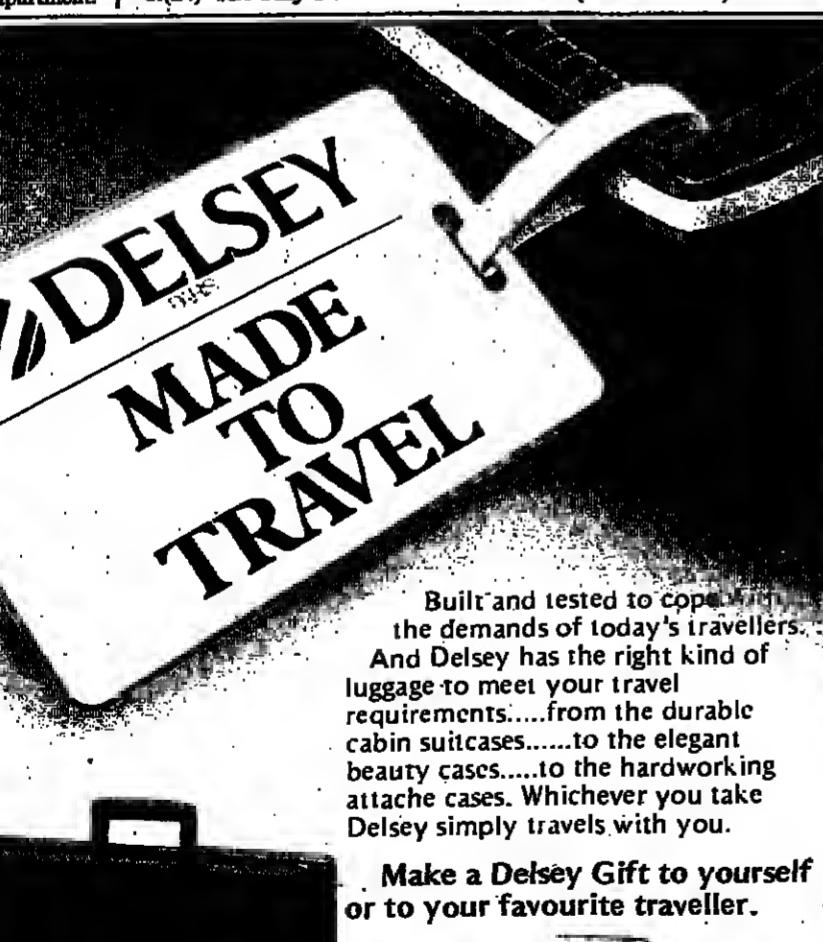
NEW YORK, June 8. (AP): Madonna and her new hit "Vogue" made it for the second time to the top of the pop singles record charts in the United States. The disc hit number one two weeks ago on the Cash Box magazine chart, slipped to second position last week, and now rallied back.

The top 10 singles, as rated by Cash Box magazine, with last week's positions in brackets:

1. (2) "Vogue" — Madonna (Sire-Warner Brothers).
2. (3) "Hold On" — Wilson Phillips (SDK).
3. (1) "All I Wanna Do" — Heart (Capitol).
4. (4) "Poison" — BBD (MCA).
5. (7) "Alright" — Janet Jackson (A and M).
6. (11) "I Must Have Been Love" — Roxette.
7. (8) "You Can't Touch This" — M.C. Hammer (Columbia).
8. (5) "Sending All My Love" — Linear (Atlantic).
9. (9) "Ooh La La" — Perfect Gentlemen (Columbia).
10. (10) "Nothing Compares To You" — Sinéad O'Connor (Chrysalis).

This week's top singles, as listed by Owl Price Music Ltd., the national music retail chain, with last week's positions in parentheses:

1. (2) "World In Motion" — England-New Order (Factory-MCA).
2. (1) "Killer" — Adamski (MCA).
3. (10) "Hear the Drummer (Get Wicked)" — Chad Jackson (Big Wave).
4. (6) "Venus" — Don Pablos Animals (Rumour).
5. (3) "Hold On" — En Vogue (Atlantic).
6. (24) "The Only One I Know" — Charlatans (Situation Two).



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PEOPLE AND PLACES

LONDON: The bookmaker William Hill, stopped taking bets Wednesday on who will be the next Archbishop of Canterbury after a flurry of interest and high-stakes bets were placed on a former dark horse among churchmen.

Since Dr Robert Runcie announced in March that he was stepping down as the Archbishop of Canterbury, there has been widespread public and press speculation over who will replace him as primate of the Church of England and spiritual leader of Anglicans worldwide.

The betting emporium said that on Wednesday before closing the book they turned down eight bets of between £500 and £1,000 (\$297 to \$595) on Rev. John Taylor, the 60-year-old bishop of St Albans. (AP)

AKRON, Ohio: The will of actress Greta Garbo is being contested by a nephew who is seeking a share of the estate, which is estimated to be worth hundreds of millions of dollars and left entirely to her niece.

Akron lawyer A. Joseph Waterman said he received a signed contract in Monday's mail from Sven-Ake Fredriksson of Oxelosund, Sweden.

Garbo, who died April 15 in New York at the age of 84, left her estate to a niece, Gray Reisfeld of Milltown, New Jersey, who also is Fredriksson's half-sister. The lawyer said Reisfeld and Fredriksson are Garbo's only living heirs.

Waterman estimated the value of Garbo's estate at hundreds of millions of dollars. However, documents filed with the will in New York City surrogate's court said only that the estate was worth more than \$500,000. (UPI)

LAKELAND, Florida: For his 20 years of service, city employee James Moran was awarded a plaque and a certificate for a free dinner for two.

After three lobster tails, 33 orders of jumbo shrimp cocktail, four dozen steamed oysters and an assortment of steaks and other seafood, Moran and his date amassed a \$510 bill — and the city was stuck with the tab.

"When something goes out and does something like this it's a show," says manager George Strickland on Tuesday. "It absolutely flabbergasted me.... It only takes one person to mess up a good programme for everyone else."

Moran's supervisors at Lakeland Electric and Water also were not amused. They recommended he be fired from his \$38,771-a-year job.

LONDON: The mayor of a northern English town brandished a kitchen knife and threatened to castrate a gas worker drilling the road outside her house, a court heard on Thursday.

Vera Lomax, 49, infuriated by the noise from the pneumatic drill, shouted at the worker and warned him she "liked sweetmeats for breakfast."

Lomax, mayor of Rochdale, told the court she had received assertiveness training and admitted to being "self-righteous and prissy" at times. (Reuter)

MADISON, Wisconsin: A 45-year-old man wants court permission to marry his 23-year-old adopted daughter because they have developed a relationship "in the romantic sense."

James Salt adopted Jannett Christen Taylor two years ago when she was 21. The father and daughter are petitioning a judge to overturn the adoption so they can get married.

The original reason for this adult adoption was that Jannett had nobody in her life after having lived for years in a foster home and with a father who had eventually left her life and a mother who had disappeared when Jannett was but a small child." Salt said in a petition filed with the court.

Salt explained there was "no romantic relationship" at the time of the adoption but that over the last several months "it has become apparent to each of us that we are in love in the romantic sense." (UPI)

CHARLOTTE, North Carolina: A man who wed his World War II sweetheart nine months ago after a 47-year separation said a sea of US government red tape is now keeping him and his bride an ocean apart.

"Everybody says they can't believe this stuff is going on," said George Ramsey, a 66-year-old retired truck driver. "All the time she's crying, and those phone bills are going up like hell. It's the damnedest thing I ever heard of."

"All I want to do is get back to Charlotte and my husband," Millicent Ramsey, 61, told the Charlotte Observer in Thursday's edition.

Millicent has been stuck in London since she returned home on Feb. 17 to attend a relative's 50th wedding anniversary and stayed past the deadline to return to the US when another relative became ill. (UPI)

CHICAGO: The original Playboy mansion, home to lavish parties in the days when Hugh Hefner was master of the house, is for sale for \$6 million, its new owners said on Wednesday.

The buyer will get 72 rooms, including a bowling alley and an indoor tropical lagoon swimming pool.

Hefner donated the 87-year-old building on a prime piece of real estate to the Art Institute of Chicago in 1984.

The art institute used the building as a dormitory but said it proved to be an inefficient project given the cost of the upkeep and the fact that only about 30 students were housed there.

Hefner, founder of the Playboy magazine and club empire, moved out of the mansion nearly 20 years ago when he moved to California to a new mansion. (Reuter)



Blues great Buddy Guy pals Clapton on the back during the rock awards in New York on June 6. (Reuter wirephoto)

Clapton wins an 'Elvis'

Second international rock award

NEW YORK, June 8. (UPI): Bluesy rock legend Eric Clapton kicked off a live multi-city broadcast of the second international rock awards and minutes later walked off with an "Elvis" as the world's most valuable guitarist.

The ceremony, broadcast live by the ABC television network, originated from a Manhattan armoury and featured David Bowie singing "Suffragette City" from London. Winners in 10 categories walked off with statues of young Elvis Presley and presenters pointedly dubbed each prize an "Elvis."

Pepper-tongued comedian Sam Kinison co-hosted with actor Gary Busey, and the controversial comic vowed to avoid the kind of language that earned Andrew Dice Clay a lifetime ban from MTV during presentation of the video music awards.

Clapton, however, was the first to give broadcast censors fits.

After playing the night's first live performance with another blues guitar legend, Buddy Guy, Clapton accepted his award with a modest, "I'm too old for this s---."

Clapton also took the "living legend of the year" award.

"Tour of the year" winners, the Rolling Stones, were shown stomping out their special brand of rock 'n' roll in front of the Berlin Wall in a video of their recently completed world tour. Charlie Watts also

was named the world's best drummer. Aerosmith, Paul McCartney, Bon Jovi, and the who also were nominated for "tour of the year."

The evening's first "Elvis" went to Alannah Myles, named "Newcomer of the year" against nominees Bad English, Lenny Kravitz, Skid Row, and Stone Roses.

Aerosmith captured "Artist of the year" against nominees Fine Young Cannibals, the Rolling Stones, Bonnie Raitt and the B-52s.

Lou Reed presented the award for "album of the year" to Tom Petty for "Full Moon Fever."

Petty beat out Aerosmith, the Stones, the Fine Young Cannibals and former Eagle Don Henley for best album.

Other presenters for the awards — whose nominees are drawn from the ranks of Top 40 radio and are primarily middle-of-the-road rockers — include Laurie Anderson, Iggy Pop, Pat Smyth, and Bo Diddley.

"Late night with David Letterman" musician Paul Shaffer joined model Christie Brinkley in presenting the "Elvis" for best keyboards to Brinkley's husband, Billy Joe.

Joel beat out Elton John and Kate Bush.

Bonnie Raitt, who recently won four Grammies, continued her winning ways by taking the most valuable female award.

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INTERNATIONAL

Peru poll indicates Fujimori, Llosa tie

LIMA, June 8. (UPI): Polls showed a virtual tie yesterday between the two candidates going into Sunday's decisive second-round vote to pick a president who will face the twin challenges of runaway inflation and a savage guerrilla war.

The polls showed a difference of not more than 4 percentage points between the candidates, novelist Mario Vargas Llosa and agriculture engineer Alberto Fujimori.

The polls were the first since a nationally broadcast debate Sunday, the first televised debate in Peruvian history, that appeared to give Vargas Llosa a boost as the campaign entered its final week.

The campaign has shaped up a conflict between the two candidates plans over how to tame Peru's inflation, which ran at 2,775 per cent in 1989 and is still rising.

A poll in Peru's largest cities by the public opinion research firm Apoyo showed Vargas Llosa with 42.9 per cent of the vote, followed by 41.5 per cent for Fujimori.

"We should consider this very positive news but still recognise that we still need to do better to overcome the majority Fujimori may still have in the countryside," said an internal Vargas Llosa campaign memorandum.

The other poll, a nationwide voter sample by the Peruvian de Opinion Pública research organisation, had Fujimori winning by 4 per cent. The total vote percentages for each candidate were not provided by the company.

Fujimori, the son of Japanese immigrants, surged from a virtual unknown in the last two weeks before an April 8 first-round vote to capture second place with 24 per cent and the right to face Vargas Llosa in the Sunday election.

Vargas Llosa, an internationally known novelist, won 27 per cent of the April vote. He considered quitting the race because he did not achieve the first-round victory he had sought as a mandate to make the deep economic changes he advocates but decided to continue.



Collor burns arm, face

Brazilian President Fernando Collor de Mello threw a flaming torch onto a pile of drugs to destroy them and slightly burned his right arm and face, officials said on Wednesday.

The incident happened on Tuesday when Collor was visiting a farm in the region of Aquidauana in the central Mato Grosso Do Sul state.

Television film showed large flames leaping up after Collor threw the torch onto a 1,500-pound (700-kg) pile of marijuana and cocaine to destroy the drugs.

The accident forced the president to cancel a speech on his steps to combat drug trafficking. (Reuters wirephoto)

dangerous sports such as riding test motorcycles.

"Mr President, don't go any closer," an army officer shouted vainly but too late as the chief executive approached the piles of drugs and threw the torch in a ceremony that was reported Wednesday by all major newspapers and television stations.

The inflammable material exploded, and the president, his hair singed and his right arm slightly burned, was forced to run back from the flames.

The accident forced the president to cancel a speech on his steps to combat drug trafficking. (Reuters wirephoto)

CIA drug link

Attorney to probe

LOS ANGELES, June 8. (UPI):

A defense attorney in the Enrique Camarena murder trial sought yesterday to question a US man once employed by a Mexican drug baron about whether the CIA had sanctioned Mexican drug-trafficking activities in the mid-1980s.

The attorney, Mary Kelly, asked the witness, Victor Lorenzo Harrison, a former radio technician with the Directorate of Federal Security, the Mexican counterpart to the CIA, whether a high-ranking DFS commander had worked with the CIA in Mexico.

Kelly argued that Harrison's testimony suggested Fonseca believed there was an understanding with US officials that his drug trafficking activities would be permitted.

UK beef ban to end, deal signed

BRUSSELS, June 8. (Reuters):

European Economic Community farm ministers agreed yesterday to tighten measures to curb "mad cow" disease and France, West Germany and Italy promised to lift their bans on imports of British beef immediately.

"All of us must be very relieved that ... that we have succeeded in achieving a unified position and the lifting of these unilateral measures," EEC Agriculture Commissioner Ray MacSharry said after crisis talks that went through the night and most of the day.

West Germany had sent telegrams to its states lifting its ban, and France and Italy had pledged to follow suit, MacSharry told a news conference.

The row erupted when Britain's EEC partners blocked imports of beef, citing concern that the cattle brain disease Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) might spread to humans.

Britain accused them of trying to protect their own farmer rather than the health of their consumers, but Paris, Bonn and Rome insisted that not enough was known about the disease to guarantee British beef was safe.

The dispute threatened to develop into a major trade conflict within the 12-nation community just as the bloc prepares to become a barrier-free single market by the end of 1992.

The United States was also watching the outcome closely for signs the deal could have an effect on its long-running row with the community over its ban on the sale of hormone-treated beef, which has hit US exports.

Diplomats said the final deal, in classic community style, would allow all sides to claim victory.

"It's a very, very much more satisfactory answer than we thought we would get yesterday," said British Agriculture Minister John Gunnell.

The key point of the agreement is that Britain will now have to certify that exported bone-in beef comes from herds where there has not been an outbreak in the last two years of BSE, which was first discovered in 1986.

Boneless beef can be exported provided Britain certifies certain types of nerves and tissues most susceptible to carrying the disease are removed from the meat. BSE attacks the brain and nervous tissues of beef cattle.

Live cattle can be exported only if younger than six months and certified not to be offspring of a cow suspected of BSE.

Britain has 150,000 herds of cattle and BSE has been identified in 7,500 of them, British officials say.

Digital/NCS Seminar



Digital Equipment Corporation, in conjunction with its sole authorized distributor, National Computer Services (NCS) held recently a seminar at the Sheraton Hotel outlining the trends in Computer Industry and Digital strategies in the 90's.

The theme of the seminar was, as hardware technology improves throughout the

industry, the ability of vendors to provide an Open Computing Environment becomes more and more significant. Digital has been building on the Open Systems Model for years and will continue to strengthen its position in this direction in the 90's.

The seminar was attended by top management and professionals from leading government and private organizations.

Vaccine to fight Aids

Further clinical tests must be conducted

WASHINGTON, June 8. (AP): Researchers at Johns Hopkins University have shown that a vaccine produced by genetic engineering fights the virus that produces Aids, according to a report published yesterday.

The vaccine uses gene-splicing techniques to produce a chain of proteins mimicking a portion of the surface of the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), the cause of Aids.

The test vaccine is a long way from being shown to be a possible weapon against Aids. Further clinical tests, which could take years to complete, must be conducted before the vaccine could be used.

Vaccines against viruses usually are made of the whole virus, crippled

so that it cannot cause the disease in question, or a killed virus.

Writing in Science, the journal of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Johns Hopkins team said, "although the induction of virus-specific... (virus-fighting) responses is traditionally associated with attenuated live-virus vaccines, our results demonstrate that envelope protein sub-unit vaccines, which have greater inherent simplicity and safety, may also induce" the desired activity.

The candidate vaccine was injected into eight volunteers four times over 18 months.



Kevorkian displays the suicide machine in this February 1990 file photo. (Reuters wirephoto)

Suicide machine criticised

Pathologist actions violated ethical code.

PONTIAC, Michigan, June 8. (UPI): Members of the Michigan medical community condemned a pathologist and his "death machine" for helping the suicide of an Oregon woman suffering from Alzheimer's disease.

William Howe, director of the Michigan Health Bureau, said his office has started an investigation of Dr. Jack Kevorkian, who told ABC's "Night Line" Wednesday night that he did not charge Jane Adkins a fee to connect her to the machine that claimed her life by lethal injection.

A Oakland county circuit court judge scheduled a hearing for today to hear arguments from Kevorkian and from prosecutors who want to stop him from doing it again.

Kevorkian noted that an injunction would apply to Oakland County because that is where Adkins died, in the back of a van.

"I could make another machine in a little while," Kevorkian said.

Kevorkian said Adkins, 54, of Portland, pressed a button on the homemade suicide machine that allowed intravenous doses of three different drugs to combine and form potassium chloride which stopped her heart within minutes.

Authorities confiscated the machine after they found Adkins dead. No charges were filed against Kevorkian pending an investigation. He notified authorities after Adkins died.

Kevorkian's methods were condemned by Michigan physicians.

"I would have to say that Dr Kevorkian's approach is veterinary medicine and that we as human beings are not animals," said Dr John W. Fizell, director of the Hospice of southern Michigan.

She died with dignity. She was alone in the back of a van in a park with this machine and this doctor. That's no way to die.

Last July, Finn supervised the removal of life-support systems for David Rivlin, a quadriplegic whose attending physician refused to remove the respirator. Finn said the two cases are not comparable.

"What happened to David Rivlin was not an assisted suicide and was not a lethal injection," Finn said. "It was removing a medical device he no longer wanted. He was able to say his goodbyes and tears were shed. Photos were passed; his favorite music was played... and it was in the home of his dearest friend."

Left-handed children: Children born to women in their 30s and 40s appear significantly more likely to be left-handed than those born to younger women, a Canadian researcher said Wednesday.

A study of 2,228 college freshmen found those whose mothers were aged 40 and above when they were born had more than twice the rate of left-handedness as those whose mothers were between 17 and 29, said Stanley Coren of the University of British Columbia in Vancouver.

Coren said maternal age had no apparent effect on the incidence of left-handedness in the students whose mothers were aged 17 to 24 when they were born. About 10 per cent of all people are predominantly left-handed.

However, as mothers get older, "there is a gradual increase in the relative risk of left-handedness" in their offspring, Coren said in a letter to the New England Journal of Medicine.

Weight gain backed: An expert committee on Wednesday recommended a weight gain of 25 to 35 pounds (11-16 kg) during pregnancy to reduce the risk of a low birth-weight baby without adversely affecting the health of the mother.

The committee of the Institute of Medicine, a part of the US National Academy of Sciences in Washington, added that normal women eating a balanced diet require no vitamin pills during pregnancy apart from a low dose of iron daily.

The panel's views update a similar report issued 20 years ago that told women to gain 20 to 25 pounds (9-11 kg) during pregnancy.

The latest recommendations are based on a large body of new evidence indicating that weight gain, particularly between the fourth and ninth months of pregnancy, is an important determinant in foetal growth, the panel said.

Too little weight gain during pregnancy has been linked to infant death and retarded growth.

The panel said that underweight women should try to gain even more weight — 28 to 40 pounds (13-18 kg) — while overweight women should limit their gain to 15 to 25 pounds (7-11 kg). Even obese women should put on at least 15 pounds, it added. (Reuters)

Genital warts: Genital and anal warts in children can be caused by skin viruses as well as genital viruses common to adults and should not be used as evidence of sexual abuse, doctors said on Friday.

In the United States, discovery of genital warts in a child usually triggers investigation for possible sexual abuse because it is generally assumed they can only be contracted by sexual transmission.

Doctors from John Radcliffe Hospital and Stade Hospital in Oxford, using sophisticated analysis techniques, determined that in six out of 17 cases studied the virus that caused the child's warts was associated with skin viruses which can be transmitted in a variety of ways.

EEC vows to end hazardous waste exports

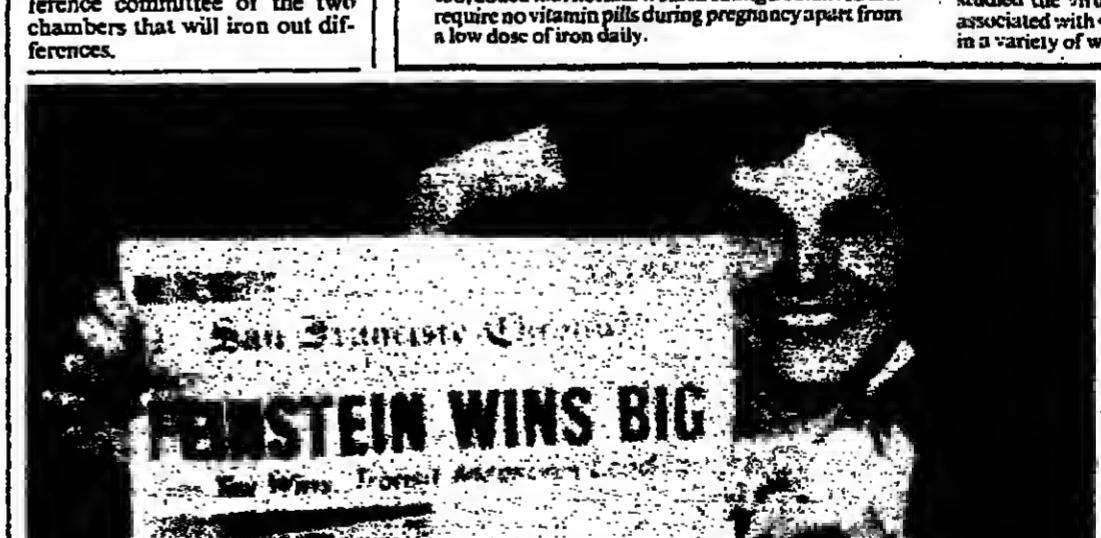
LUXEMBOURG, June 8. (Reuters): The European Economic Community yesterday pledged to stop exporting hazardous waste and most other kinds of refuse, and to keep transport of such waste within its borders to a minimum, diplomats said.

EEC environment ministers, meeting in Luxembourg, agreed to step up waste prevention and recycling and to tighten rules for refuse disposal.

Diplomats said the 12-nation community should have facilities to dispose of its entire mountain of industrial and household waste — estimated at some 1.1 billion tonnes a year — and not export it abroad.

The aid refuse should be disposed of at the nearest site available.

The main methods are incineration and dumping in vast landfills — instead of being transported around



California gubernatorial candidate Dianne Feinstein holds up a newspaper declaring her the winner of the June 5 Democratic primary en route to Los Angeles for a June 8 news conference. Feinstein became the first woman to represent a major party in California to run for governor in the November election. (Reuters wirephoto)

(Story Page 8)

Yoma Menem has no plans of leaving presidential residence despite marital feud

BUENOS AIRES, June 8. (Reuters): Argentine First Lady Zulema Yoma de Menem yesterday compared the presidential residence with a jail, adding that pillow-talk with her husband President Carlos Menem was out of the question because he plays tennis into the wee hours and then falls asleep.

Yoma, 47, told reporters she invited for lunch at the Olivos presidential residence that she had no plans of leaving her home despite her marital problems.

"This is my domicile. This is where I live

with my children and I am not leaving... but it's like a jail," said the blonde Yoma, who did not allow reporters to tape her comments, according to private radio station Radio America.

Local press reports say President Menem has not slept at the official residence for nearly one month, spending nights in friends' houses, offices and even in hospitals.

Yoma said she could never talk to her husband by herself because there was always someone else around Menem.

"The president's friends stay around playing tennis into the wee hours and then fall asleep. There is no time for words," Yoma said.

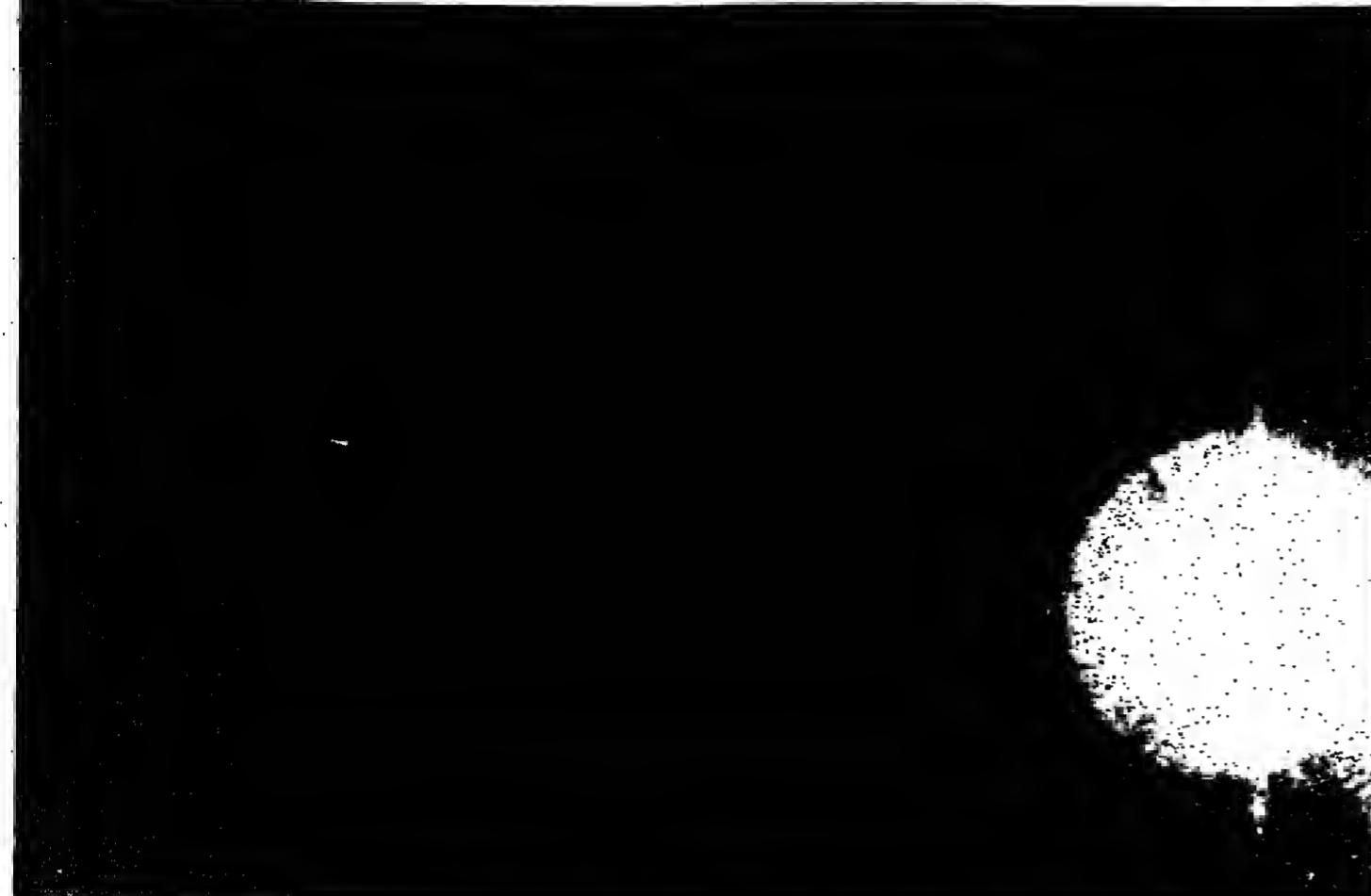
Menem, 59, last week left on a 17-day round-the-world trip, as his marital problems were aired in local media. Today he will attend the inauguration of the 1990 soccer World Cup playoffs in Milan.

Menem later acknowledged that his marriage was in trouble. "My marriage is not working, but that does not mean it's on

fire," the Peronist leader told Telesur. He refused to say if he will divorce Yoma, saying that "only time will tell."

Yoma added yesterday that her marriage will prevail despite the corruption in her husband's government.

"Next year is my silver (25th wedding anniversary) and we are going to celebrate it here. God willing," Zulema told a group of reporters, including one from United Press International, over lunch yesterday at the presidential compound in the Olivos neighbourhood of Buenos Aires.



Solar system portrait as taken by Voyager 1. This image is a portion of a wide-angle photo containing the sun (right) and the region where the Earth (left) and Venus were at the time. (Reuters wirephoto)

Solar system 'family portrait' released

'Picture of the century' shows Earth, 5 planetary neighbours

WASHINGTON, June 8, (UPI): Unprecedented photos taken by NASA's aging Voyager 1 probe were released Wednesday showing Earth and five of its planetary neighbours as mere pinpoints of light in the "velvet blackness of space," a stirring alien's eye view of humanity's home planet.

The once-in-a-lifetime "family portrait" of the solar system's planets, dubbed the "picture of the century" by some astronomers, were the last photos that will ever be taken by the Hardy probe, said Voyager project scientist Edward Stone of the California Institute of Technology.

Voyager snapped the pictures at a distance of 3.7 billion miles (6 billion km) from the sun, a parting shot as the nuclear-powered probe sails out of the solar system.

Astronomer Carl Sagan said the mosaic underscores the rarity and preciousness of the Earth and the life upon it:

"The portrait of the planets that was now taken is, it seems to me, in the same tradition as the extraordinary photographs of the whole Earth taken by the Apollo astronauts on their way to the moon, which for the first time gave everyone a sense of the Earth as a small blue-and-white world set in the velvet blackness of space."

"For many people, it underlines the vulnerability and fragility of the Earth. It seems to me this portrait of the solar system has some similar feeling."

The mosaic did not include Mercury, Mars and Pluto, which were not visible from Voyager's perspective.

Earth and Venus showed up as mere pin-pricks of light as did Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune. Sagan said the tiny image of Earth had a slightly bluish tint.

"It shows you how insignificant we are," said spokesman Jurrie van der Woude of the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena. "It may not be a photograph that makes you say, 'wow.' But when you look at it, it's a sobering thought that we're so small."

The pictures are among more than 60 images taken by the Voyager 1 spacecraft as the hardy probe sailed toward the outer reaches of the solar system, providing an unprecedented view of Earth's home.

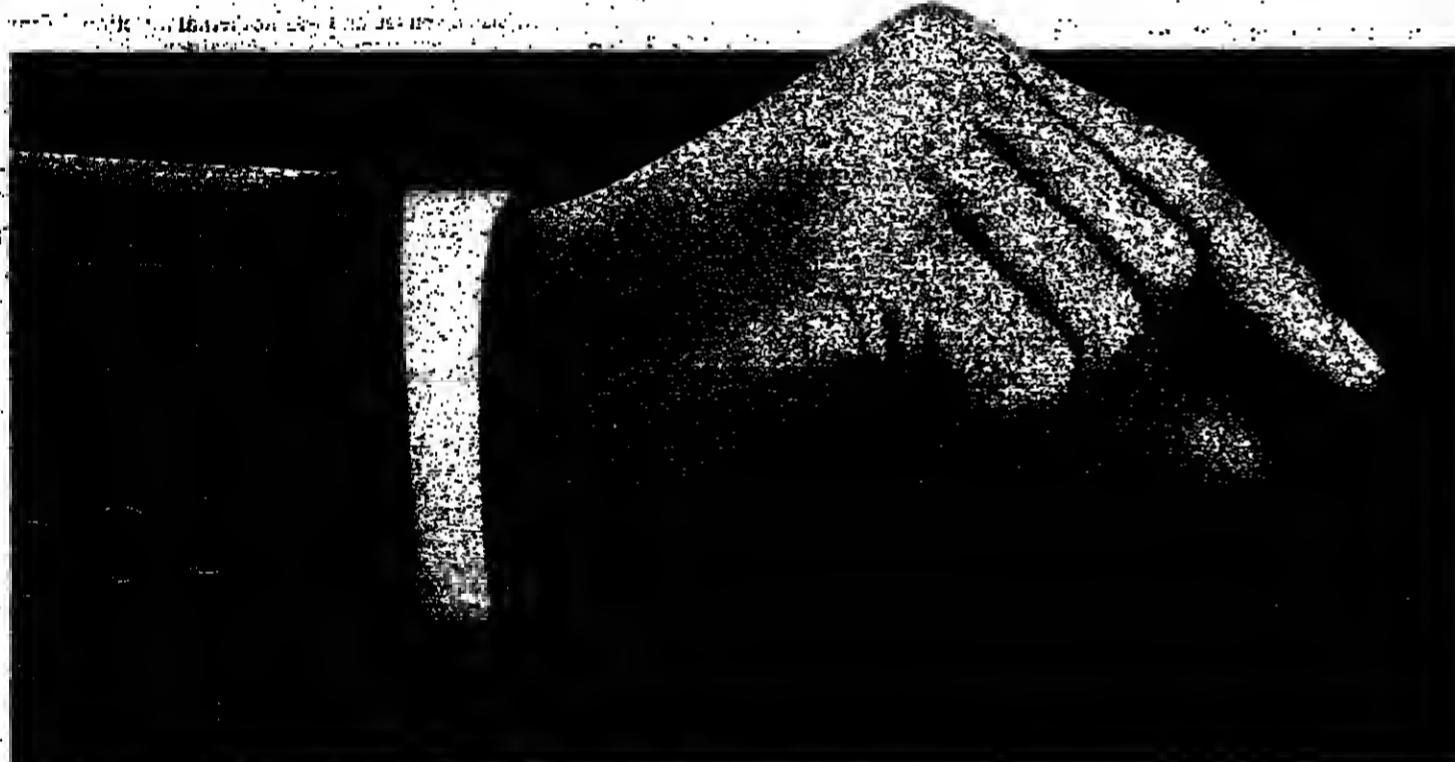
lived lived out their lives," Sagan said. "It's a very small stage in a great cosmic arena. I think this perspective underscores our responsibility to preserve and cherish that blue dot, the only home we have."

The photos, snapped by the Voyager 1 spacecraft Feb. 13, show Earth, Venus, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune and the sun as tiny white dots against a vast black background.

"It shows you how insignificant we are," said spokesman Jurrie van der Woude of the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena. "It may not be a photograph that makes you say, 'wow.' But when you look at it, it's a sobering thought that we're so small."

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"On that blue dot; that's where everyone you know...and every human being who ever



Shootings in Dallas

Senate gives up on crime bill

DALLAS, June 8, (Reuters): In the past three weeks 18 people have been shot by gunmen firing from passing cars and police in Dallas fear they may be powerless to stop a trend.

"It's sort of like stopping the tide in the ocean," Captain Dennis Rhoten of the suburban Arlington police department said. "You're not going to stop drive-by shootings any more than you're going to stop robberies."

The crime has been common in other US cities, most notably Los Angeles.

"It has always been the way of gangs in Los Angeles to pay each other back by shooting from cars, but apparently we've caught the plague," an Arlington police official told Reuters yesterday.

Many of the shootings have been gang-related, but police are appalled that several of the shootings were apparently random attacks, including two elementary school children gunned down while running on a playground.

Some residents say they have started staying home at night and are afraid to enter city parks or other outdoor public areas.

"I don't know if it's safe to go outside anymore."

Kennedy, Cuomo kin to marry

ALBANY, New York, June 8, (AP): Two rising stars from prominent US political families will wed this weekend.

Kerry Kennedy, a daughter of the late senator and presidential hopeful Robert F. Kennedy and Andrew Cuomo, oldest son of New York Gov. Mario Cuomo will be the bride and groom tomorrow.

"Everybody in the world knows the Kennedy family," said William Cunningham, a veteran Cuomo political adviser. "And the Cuomos — in New York state, in the political world — are at the top of the heap."

But Cunningham cautioned against blowing the wedding's importance out of proportion.

"This isn't the middle ages where the Duke of Normandy and the Duke of Avignon get together and decide on a marriage," he said. "This is not a dynastic accomplishment, this is two people who decided to get married."

More than 250 guests have been invited to witness the ceremony tomorrow afternoon in the Cathedral of St. Matthew in Washington D.C.

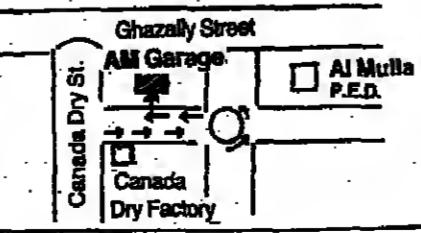
Rory Kennedy, Kerry's youngest sister will be maid of honour. Christopher Cuomo, Andrew's 19-year-old brother will be best man. John F. Kennedy Jr., Kerry's cousin and son of the late president will be an usher.

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Ahmadi Industrial Area Tel: 3980533



Canada talks reach critical phase

OTTAWA, June 8, (Reuters): After the fifth consecutive day, Canada's constitutional talks have reached a make-or-break phase, according to Prime Minister Brian Mulroney.

"We're getting pretty close to having to fish or cut bait," Mulroney said after yesterday's talks. "What is at stake is the future of Canada."

Manitoba Premier Gary Filmon, one of the leaders opposed to the so-called Meech Lake Accord to amend the constitution, said the talks were at an impasse over a clause in the accord recognizing the French-speaking province of Quebec as a distinct society.

Quebec leaders are threatening to separate from Canada if the Meech Lake deal to

amend the 1982 constitution is not approved by the June 23 deadline.

The talks will continue today but the premiers of Canada's 10 provinces emerged from another long bargaining session tempering their enthusiasm that a deal could be struck to prevent the country from breaking up.

"I think we hit the low point. Tomorrow we will hit the high point," predicted British Columbia Premier Bill Vander Zalm.

"I think there is a solution and we're looking for it," said Premier David Peterson, head of the most populous province, Ontario.

But in a surprise move, Robert Bourassa, premier of Quebec, announced he would no

longer be present in negotiations when discussing the Meech Lake clause recognizing Quebec as distinct.

"Enough is enough," said Bourassa, who is under intense pressure at home not to give up any gains won at Meech Lake.

The accord, named after the government's retreat in Quebec, was drawn up in June for ratification within three years.

It accorded Quebec special powers to protect its heritage in order to receive the province's endorsement of Canada's 1982 constitution which cut the last colonial ties with Britain. Quebec refused to sign the new constitution.

IPI strongly condemns assault on press men

LONDON, June 8, (UPI): The International Press Institute Thursday condemned China, the Soviet Union, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and El Salvador for inadequate protection of press personnel, who in some incidents have been detained, assaulted and murdered.

The Zurich-based organization called on Beijing to explain the whereabouts of 20 Chinese journalists arrested since communist authorities last June staged a fierce crackdown on a pro-democracy movement.

In a letter to Chinese Prime Minister Li Peng, IPI also condemned Chinese security personnel for this week's assaults of five Western reporters who were covering the first anniversary of the bloodshed around Beijing's Tiananmen Square.

"We are dismayed that many of your government's actions against the media over the last year show a clear disregard for internationally recognized standards of press freedom, including article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights," IPI director Peter Galiner said.

In an incident on Monday, Chinese officers pulled to the ground and repeatedly kicked Richard Ellis, an American national employed as a photographer for Reuters News Service. An officer took one of his cameras and smashed it on the ground.

Ellis in a telephone interview said no attempt was made to arrest him, and the assault was apparently part of a strategy of harassment.

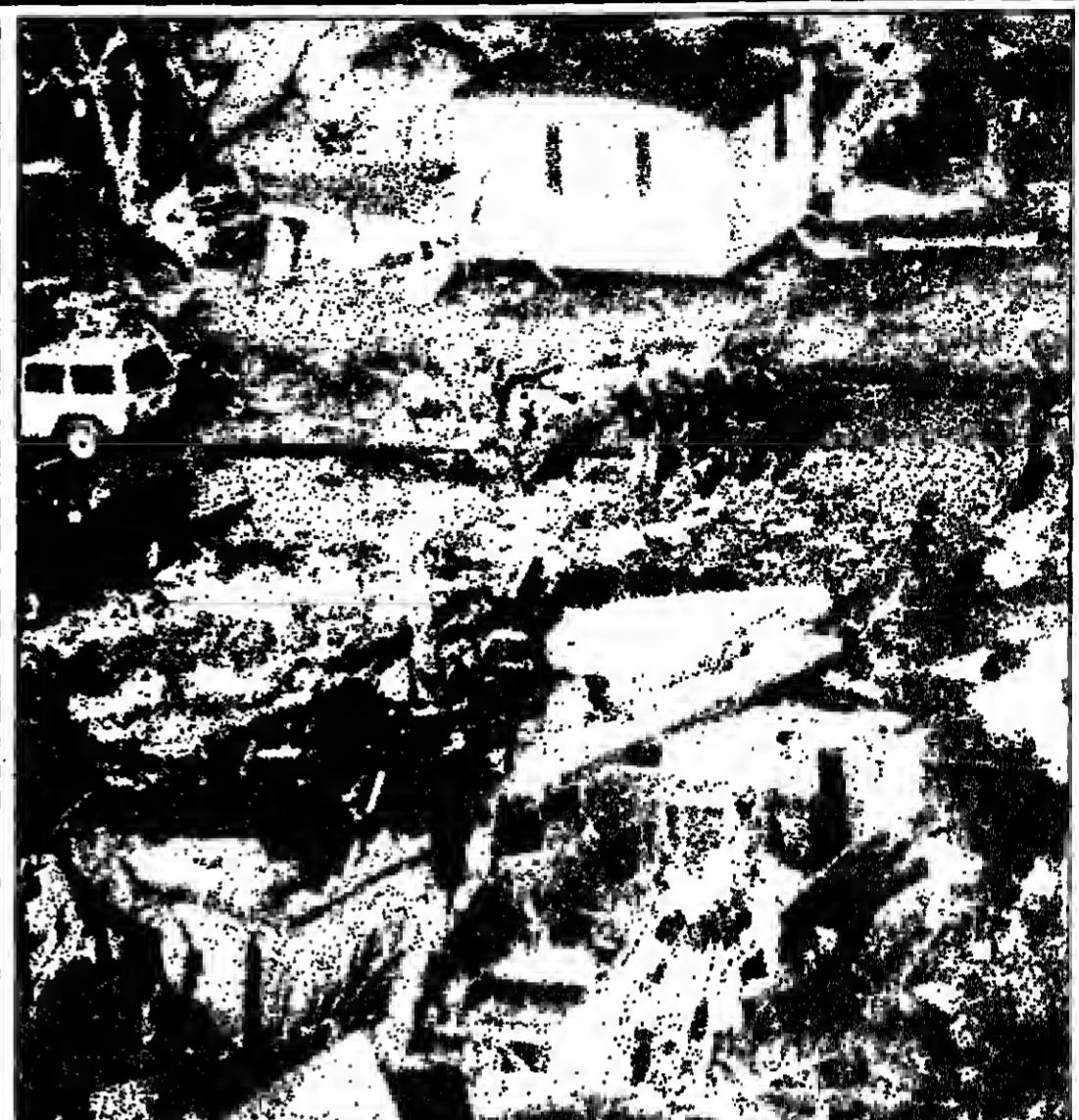
Chinese authorities had responded to official complaints by alleging the Western press was "plotting with hardcore elements from last year's turmoil," he said.

"They were just going wild," Ellis said. "For two days it was a daily event. Everyone was being questioned at gunpoint. The word is circulating that (security personnel) are to intimidate the foreign press and that everything is allowed except for killing them."

The IPI sent complaints to three South Asian nations about press harassment.

It requested Pakistan Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto to investigate and prosecute those responsible for murdering three reporters in Sindh province, which is afflicted by clashes between rival ethnic groups.

The institute called on Girish SAXENA, the governor of India's northern Jammu and Kashmir state, to locate Yousaf Jameel, a freelance reporter for Reuters and the British Broadcasting Corp.



Tornado devastates

A tornado devastated a commercial strip and a trailer park in the farming community of Limon, injuring at least 12 people, authorities said Thursday. Warning sirens apparently averted more serious casualties.

Sirens wailed in Limon for 10 minutes before the twister struck Wednesday night, giving residents time to take shelter, officials and survivors said.

Three guests at the Larilat Hotel piled into their bathtub and pulled a mattress over themselves after the sirens went off.

"We were doing a lot of praying in that bathtub," said David Thomas, 27.

Rocket

Titan blasts off with army cargo

CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida, June 8, (AP): America's mightiest unmanned space rocket a Titan 4, blasted off on a classified military mission early today with a national security payload.

The rocket lit up the sky as it thundered into orbit after its 1:22am (0522 GMT) launch from Cape Canaveral air force station.

The air force refused to discuss or even acknowledge the flight until about 20 minutes after liftoff when a statement was issued. The rocket's payload was not disclosed.

John Pike director of the federation of American scientists' space policy project said the rocket's cargo most likely is a \$500-million electronic eavesdropping satellite capable of intercepting missile telemetry.

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INTERNATIONAL

East bloc cutting aid to Cambodia

WASHINGTON, June 8. (AP): The Washington Post, citing a confidential study done for several charitable groups, reported today that the Soviet Union and Eastern European countries plan to cut aid to the Cambodian government of Premier Hun Sen.

The study by Raoul Jenner, a former staff adviser to the Belgian Senate, found that Cambodia decided to sell gold reserves and lay off 56,000 employees when told of the impending cutoff last month, the Post said.

The Soviet and East European aid will end in January 1991, giving way to hard-currency commercial exchanges, the Post said.

The newspaper, in a report from Paris, said Western aid agencies operating in Cambodia, including Oxfam and Handicap International, requested the study as part of an evaluation of their projects.

Jenner recommended that the groups concentrate effort on massive emergency relief, suspending some of their long-term projects, the newspaper said.

"When adding up all the factors ... one must seriously question whether the country can survive longer than six or 18 months," the Post quoted the report as saying.

Among those factors, it said, are the embargo by the United States, other non-communist countries and China. The embargo prevents the Vietnam-backed Phnom Penh government from finding alternatives to the East European and Soviet funds which make up 80 per cent of its revenues.

The United States and other Western countries have been providing support to non-communist rebels, while China provides military supplies to them and the Khmer Rouge.

■ Security officials of the Vietnamese-backed government in Cambodia have detained six senior officials, including a cabinet minister, for secretly setting up a political party to compete with the ruling Communist Party, an editor of a state-owned news paper said today.

■ Former Cambodian ruler Prince Norodom Sihanouk will not join a conciliatory national council or run for president in Cambodia as part of a proposed UN-sponsored settlement, his son said yesterday.

Prince Norodom Ranariddh, speaking to reporters at Bangkok airport after returning from peace talks attended by his father in Tokyo, gave no explanation for his father's decision.

■ A visiting Soviet official said yesterday the agreement for military restraint signed by the Phnom Penh government and resistance leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk was a substantial step forward in the Cambodian peace process.

"For first time, the Cambodian parties have worked out together a rather important document," Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Igor Rogachev said during his two-day visit to Malaysia.

■ Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen yesterday disclosed that a military pact had been reached between his government and the Cambodian resistance leader Norodom Sihanouk to work hand-in-hand against the pro-China Khmer Rouge rebels.

25 per cent

Japan to boost army spending

TOKYO, June 8. (AP): Japan plans to increase its defence spending by 25 per cent to 23 trillion yen (\$151.3 billion) in its next five-year buildup plan, news reports said Thursday.

However, the country's defence budget is expected to remain about 1 per cent of its gross national product, the Asahi Shimbun newspaper said.

The new plan, to begin in April 1991, provides for annual increases in military spending of about 3.5 per cent to 4 per cent about the same rate as the country's expected economic growth during the period, the Asahi said.

Spending in the current buildup plan totals 18.4 trillion yen (\$121 billion), the reports said.

A defence agency official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said he could not comment on the reports because the plan was still being finalised "taking into account the world situation."

But it remains an empty building. The

North Korea attacks 'unpardonable, traitorous' Gorbachev

TOKYO, June 8. (Agencies): North Korea's state news agency yesterday carried a blistering attack on Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev for his "unpardonable, traitorous bargaining" with the leader of South Korea.

The agency carried a statement bitterly denouncing Monday's meeting between Gorbachev and Premier Roh Tae-Woo, during which they agreed to move towards diplomatic ties.

"All facts prove that the talks between

Roh Tae-Woo and Gorbachev ... were an unpardonable, traitorous bargaining," said the statement, ostensibly from the Pyongyang-backed South Korean National Democratic Front.

Assailing the South Korean leader as a fascist military dictator, the statement went on: "The South Korean National Democratic Front joins all the people in bitterly denouncing the Roh Tae-Woo group's flunkeyist, sultanic and traitorous trip which has put the existence of

the nation and the future destiny of the country in danger."

According to the North Korean agency, monitored Tokyo, it added: "Yesterday the traitor Roh called at the imperial house of Japan, the old enemy of our nation, and made a bow and today went to the United States to make a salutation to it and bowed his knees even to the Soviet Union....

"Our people cannot but have a doubt about the attitude of the Kremlin which sat

face to face with such a dictator."

All facts prove that the talks between



Thais repatriate Burmese civilians

In a major operation that began before dawn, Thai soldiers and immigration officials repatriated more than 1,000 Burmese civilians Thursday against their will, border officials said.

Some 200 soldiers, immigration officials and border police joined in the operation, said a Thai border patrol policeman, speaking on condition of anonymity.

The civilians were taken in boats across the narrow stretch of the Moel river that separates Mae Sot from the Burmese town of Myawaddy.

A Burmese immigration official, Aung Naing, said normally those who leave Burma illegally face fines and up to six months in prison, but these returns would face no action.

Large numbers of Burmese regularly cross into

Thailand, complaining of lack of work and food in their impoverished homeland. Others are political refugees who have fled military rule in the country in the past 20 months.

Large numbers of ethnic tribespeople also have fled the Burmese Army's campaigns against minority groups on the frontier. Some have complained that they had been conscripted as porters and brutally treated by Burmese troops.

Amnesty International is among several human rights organisations that have accused the Burmese Army of murdering and mistreating those it has pressed into its service.

It was unclear if any of those pushed across the border

Thursday were political refugees. (Reuter wirephoto)

Uproar over Bob remark

Refugee for Chinese



Abrupt end

SYDNEY, June 8. (AP): Prime Minister Bob Hawke's announcement that the government will grant refuge to Chinese students while forcing Cambodian boat people to go home has sparked widespread outrage among political and refugee groups.

Critics of the decisions call them ill-considered and premature, adding that they have thrown the country's embattled immigration programme into further disarray.

The Department of Immigration already has said it will consider the Cambodians on a case-by-case basis and there are calls for the same system to be imposed for the Chinese students.

Critics say Hawke's decisions may lead to a diplomatic row with China, will strain the Asian community's ability to absorb the new residents, could lead to undesirable Chinese being allowed to stay and may keep out deserving immigrants from other countries.

Hawke announced Wednesday night that the government would create a special immigration category for the estimated 20,000 Chinese students who either were in Australia at the time of Beijing's June 1989 crackdown on the pro-democracy movement or fled here soon after.

Details of the conditions under which the Chinese may stay have yet to be announced.

At the same time, Hawke said Australia would reject Cambodian refugees. He said they were simply looking for a better standard of living and there is "not a regime now in Cambodia which is exercising terror, political terror, upon its population."

Two boatloads of Cambodians have arrived in recent weeks, and there are reports six more will arrive soon.

Yesterday, Hawke defended his decision saying the Chinese students deserve special attention.

"We will continue to ensure that — at least while there is any degree of uncertainty about their fate should they return to (China) — that they will not be required to return," he said.

Hawke's announcements took members of his cabinet by surprise. They had expected to work out policy on both the Chinese students and the Cambodians soon.

The Chinese government called the decision "untenable."

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Li Siuhua, leaves the weekly press briefing after ending the session abruptly when pressed to explain attacks by security forces on foreign correspondents on the streets of Beijing. (Reuter wirephoto)

and warned that it could harm education exchanges.

"We have been adopting a policy of leniency, education and unity toward those students who made extreme statements or actions while abroad," Chinese Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Li Siuhua said yesterday.

In Beijing, a Chinese Communist Party official today issued a stern warning to Beijing University students that police would be used against future unrest on the campus.

Lin Yanzi, deputy party secretary at the university, was quoted by the official legal daily as saying: "Let any transgressions be dealt with by the law, the government and the state apparatus."

■ The International League for Human Rights asked a UN panel on Wednesday to find out what happened to a Chinese student, Wang Weilin, seen world-wide on television last year as he headed a column of tanks in Tiananmen Square.

■ A prominent Chinese playwright, Wang Peigong, has been arrested and formally charged with counter-revolutionary incitement and with harbouring wanted student leader Wu Wei Kaixi, Chinese sources said.

Burmese troops vote for reforms

BANGKOK, June 8. (AP): Despite the privileges enjoyed during decades of authoritarian rule, many soldiers and their families voted for democratic change in Burma's first free election in 30 years. But skepticism remains about their generals' willingness to give up power.

Military votes helped the opposition National League for Democracy gain a resounding victory in the May 27 poll, and the party expects to field about 80 per cent of the 492 representatives in a new Parliament.

But nearly two weeks after polling day, a big question remains over the ruling junta's intentions.

Official results have reflected the National League's own unofficial tally, but residents of the capital, Rangoon, say the announcements have come with a sluggishness that has angered many. With just 232 results declared officially, final returns are expected to take at least another week.

Several Western diplomats contacted in Rangoon believe the junta was surprised by the support for the National League and its leader Aung San Suu Kyi. They believe hard-line generals are playing for time and may be worried by the clear endorsement of the National League.

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The Chinese government called the decision "untenable."

Such bitter language used against a leader of the Soviet Union — one of North Korea's few allies — would have been unthinkable in Pyongyang's official media just a few months ago.

In Seoul, President Roh Tae-Woo said upon returning home today after historic talks with Gorbachev that he believed South and North Korea would be unified within 10 years.

Roh told dozens of government officials

who greeted him at an indoor ceremony at a military airport outside Seoul that the bitter 45-year division of the Korean peninsula has become a world problem.

Cold war on the peninsula — divided into the communist North and the capitalist South — was a key subject of his historic talks with Gorbachev in San Francisco and with US President George Bush in Washington, said.

"I have returned home with high hopes the next generation of Koreans will live in a

peaceful and unified land, free of the shadow of war," Roh said in an arrival statement, adding that he believed Korean reunification would be realized "before the next century is out."

Roh said his historic talks with Gorbachev turned "a new page of history to herald an end to the cold war on the Korean peninsula."

Roh's meeting with Gorbachev was the first ever between leaders of the two nations which have no diplomatic relations.

Ruling on Enrile flayed

Manila coup officers escape from camp

MANILA, June 8. (AP): The justice secretary said yesterday the military may have planted evidence to justify holding communist rebels and that a recent Supreme Court decision involving Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile may allow extremists to go free.

Secretary Franklin Drilon made the remarks two days after the Supreme Court downgraded charges against Enrile and 22 others in connection with the bloody Dec. 1-9 bid to oust President Corazon Aquino.

The high court let stand a 1986 decision that persons who commit

offences such as murder in connection with an armed uprising should be charged only with rebellion, a bailable crime punishable by 6-12 years imprisonment.

Enrile and the others had been indicted on a combined murder

rebellion charge. The court nullified the combined indictment and

downgraded the charge to rebellion.

On Wednesday, lawyers for two prominent communist leaders asked

a regional court to dismiss murder, kidnapping and weapons charges

citing the Supreme Court ruling. Judge Maximiano Asuncion gave the



Royal military officers facing mutiny and murder charges in connection with last December's failed coup wave to their families during a break at a hearing in a military camp in the Philippine capital. (Reuter wirephoto)



A hold-up suspect who has been hit in the leg by gunfire pleads for his life as a Philippine Constabulary soldier aims his M-16 rifle at him after troops chased him into a shrubbery on the national highway north of Manila. The man was later ordered to strip to his underpants by police. (Reuter wirephoto)

Lawyers bid Marcos deal

Suspect in murder of airmen

Top rebel killed

MANILA, June 6. (AP): Swiss lawyers have suggested that the government strike a deal with the family of late President Ferdinand Marcos to recover part of his Swiss bank account fortune, a congressman said yesterday.

Rep. Victorio Chaves, assistant majority leader of the House of Representatives, said the lawyers made the suggestion when a congressional team investigating Marcos' "hidden wealth" visited Switzerland in April. The former leader's accounts there contain an estimated \$7.5 billion.

"Negotiate — that's the only way, the fastest way, to recover and for us to recover (the Marcos wealth)," Chaves said. "Otherwise it will just remain in the Swiss banks and nobody will benefit except the Swiss banks."

Chaves said the banks would not release the money to the Philippine government unless the accounts are identified and documented, and would not release the funds to the Marcoses because of current litigation.

Citing national security considerations, the government has banned a return to the Philip-

pines by Marcos' wife, Imelda, who faces racketeering charges in New York; their three children, and their families.

In addition to Chaves, chairman of the House Special Committee on public accountability, the team included Rep. Dante Tinga, committee vice-chairman, and opposition Rep. Jose Rono; a former Marcos cabinet member. The Swiss lawyers were identified as Sergio Salvioni and Moritz Lauerberger.

Guerrilla group warns Filipino maids

Stop serving rich Greeks

ATHENS, June 8. (UPI): An extreme-left guerrilla group told Filipino maids yesterday to quit their jobs in luxury Greek houses or risk becoming victims of bomb attacks.

The November 17 Group sent a letter to the Athens left-wing newspaper Protypos, which said it would "blow up the luxury villas of shipping magnates, industrial tycoons, doctors, lawyers and other capitalists who steal from the Greek people."

The Filipinos staff working for the capitalists should not fall victims of our campaign. We urge

Blacks, whites rap Klerk move

JOHANNESBURG, June 8. (AP) President F. W. de Klerk's decision to end the state of emergency has come under attack by militant blacks who called it a "half measure" and right-wing whites who said he's gone too far.

De Klerk's announcement yesterday that the government was lifting the 4-year-old emergency in three of the country's four provinces formally takes effect at midnight tonight. The move ends some of the harshest political restrictions ever imposed by the country's white rulers and should help clear the way for black-white negotiations on dismantling apartheid.

The Cape Times said the action will have a "steady effect at home, while once more demonstrations to the world his firm commitment to a negotiated settlement."

"Even for the cynics, the lifting of the state of emergency will mean more space, however small, has been cleared for political activity," said the Sowetan, a black-oriented newspaper.

However De Klerk came under fire from his political opponents on the right and left.

The pro-apartheid Conservative Party said the end of the emergency would lead to chaos and further alienate right-wing whites.

Conservative leader Andries Treurnicht said government should have required the African National Congress, the country's most powerful black group, to renounce its armed struggle before the emergency was lifted.

De Klerk said that the emergency will remain in place in violence-torn Natal province and 10,000 policemen will be added to the national forces over the next year.

African National Congress leader Walter Sisulu said the emergency had done nothing to stop the fighting in Natal, where about 4,000 blacks have died in the past four years. The main combatants are supporters of the ANC and members of Inkatha, a relatively conservative Zulu organisation.

The ANC has said the lifting of the emergency, the release of political prisoners and the return of exiles are the main obstacles to full negotiations on power sharing.

De Klerk wants to work out a new constitution with opposition groups that will lead to power-sharing between the 5 million whites and 28 million black, who under apartheid have no voice in national affairs.

The United States welcomed South Africa's decision to lift emergency rule in most areas but said it had still not fulfilled the conditions necessary for Washington to lift economic sanctions against the white minority government. (Reuter)

A pro-apartheid candidate made a surprisingly strong showing in a special parliamentary election Wednesday seen by some as a referendum on De Klerk's reforms.

Piet Matthee, the candidate for De Klerk's ruling National Party, defeated Francis Hitchcock of the pro-apartheid Conservative Party. (AP)



R-L: Mitterrand, Mandela, Winnie and Danielle applaud a crowd prior to the start of the human rights concert at the Trocadero esplanade, June 8, under driving rain. (Reuter wirephoto)

Mandela: curbs must continue

Schedule cut back

GENEVA, June 8. (Agencies) Nelson Mandela today called for the continuation of Western economic sanctions to hasten the end of South Africa's apartheid system but also said the country would need massive Western aid in the future.

"Sanctions were imposed as a peaceful means to end apartheid," the black leader told the annual conference of the 150-nation International Labour Organisation. "Given the fact that apartheid has not ended, it is only logical that we should continue this weapon of struggle."

But he added that the economy of South Africa would in future need "massive international intervention if we are to move forward at a pace that recognises the urgency of the needs of our people."

He said this underlined the need for ending apartheid "so that the need for sanctions falls away."

Mandela cancelled a meeting with International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) president Corinlio Sommaruga after addressing the ILO annual meeting and a news conference in the morning.

■ US President George Bush will meet Mandela on June 25 to discuss efforts to end apartheid in South Africa, the White House said on Wednesday.

■ Latest Black South African singer Miriam Makeba said today she would leave for Johannesburg tomorrow for her first visit home in 31 years.

African National Congress, said he was encouraged by Thursday's lifting of the state of emergency in most of South Africa as well as by the release of more political prisoners.

"These steps constitute part of the process of implementing what was agreed with President F. W. de Klerk a month ago," he said. "Of course, more will have to be done to ensure that the agreement is implemented in full."

Mandela, who recently underwent surgery, cancelled a meeting with the Red Cross today apparently because he was not feeling well but emerged later to say he was in top form.

"I feel on top of the world... I am well," Mandela, 71, told Reuters as he left his luxury hotel for a lunch at the ILO.

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3 years in SA jail without trial

Black scribe tells his story

PORTE ELIZABETH, South Africa, June 8. (AP) "When are you bringing him back?" my frightened sister asked a security policeman on June 16, 1986 — the day the police detained me under national emergency regulations decreed four days earlier.

"Don't worry, we'll bring him back soon," he said. "Soon" turned out to be nearly three years.

When the police came, no one tried to keep them out. The emergency empowered them to kick in the door anyway.

After hearing of the detention of other journalists I thought of going into hiding. But after moving from house to house, looking for asylum, I eventually came home. "How does a journalist go into hiding?" I asked myself.

The next night, the security police left with me. I had a jacket, a pair of jeans and a woolen hat.

Algoa Park police station's offices were as busy that night as a black hospital's casualty ward. We sat on the floor of the cold waiting room until we were fingerprinted and photographed.

"Hi Brian, you write a lot in the papers," said one of the cops to me, making me feel like a little boy in a cage.

One of the horrible experiences you go through in detention is that of being divorced from your family, your colleagues and the outside environment.

Inside the police station I was kept with about nine other people in a filthy, tiny cell with blankets full of

lice. We slept on the floor. Each day, we got cold porridge in the morning, two thin slices of bread and black coffee, served in a big tin for us to share.

No one knew where we were. We were denied newspapers, visits, pens and even clothes to change. I had to use my T-shirt as a washing on occasion. My jeans and lumber jacket made perfect pajamas.

A major breakthrough came sometime in July, when we developed various sorts of ailments — colds, ulcers, backaches. Some of us were admitted to Livingston Hospital and were able to smuggle letters to our parents and bribe guards with food and money to get visitors.

During that period, a detainee would be called for hours of interrogation. One young detainee, about 16 years old, came back sobbing.

"They've beaten me up," he said. He also told of being subjected to electric shocks.

It seems the police were trying to prove that I was a revolutionary journalist who, during the 1985 consumer boycott, took pictures of people who broke the boycott of white businesses. According to police allegations, I took the pictures to "the people's militia."

I went to the Grahamstown Supreme Court to try to prove the police wrong. The case was dismissed but I still have to pay the costs.

Liberian troops recapture key territory - Firestone plantation - gaining control of airport

is on the plantation, the government said.

Rebel sources said their forces had withdrawn from the complex after government troops backed by heavy artillery approached.

When the plantation was in their hands, insurgents controlled every major industrial concern in the West African country of 2.5 million people, except possibly the Bong iron ore mine. The mine has been cut off for days from Monrovia and was believed behind rebel lines.

The rebel presence at the rubber plantation headquarters had effectively closed the airport.

The 120,000-acre plantation the world's largest is

Russia suspends 'Soviet laws'

MOSCOW, June 8. (Reuter) The Russian Federation, the largest Soviet republic, declared today that its constitution now took precedence over Soviet laws, Tass news agency said.

The Russian Federation Parliament, led by rebel President Boris Yeltsin, approved by 544 votes to 271 an article which declared that Soviet law which conflicts with sovereign Russian rights "are suspended by the republic on its territory," Tass added.

It said a full declaration on sovereignty for the Russian Federation, which includes 160 million of the country's total population of 280 million, would be ready for endorsement by Parliament by the middle of next week.

Yeltsin, an outspoken critic of Kremlin chief Mikhail Gorbachev, declared after his election as Russian president two weeks ago that he would push the law through.

He also reserved the right of the Russian Federation to secede from the Soviet Union. But he has said he is not proposing this step.

The Baltic republics of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia took a similar move as a first step to the later declarations of independence — acts that have brought them into sharp conflict with Moscow.

The article, one point from a complex declaration on sovereignty now being debated by Parliament, means that the Russian Federation could now overrule

any law it believed conflicted with its interests.

The Kremlin seemed certain to reject the move.

But it was not clear how this would affect the republic's relations with the Soviet bureaucracy in Moscow.

Yeltsin has, for instance, already declared his opposition to Gorbachev's plans for steep food price rises as a first step to market reforms.

Yeltsin told the Russian Parliament last week the sovereignty law would give the republic exclusive right of possession of all its natural wealth.

This would in theory give it control over the huge oil, gas and coal reserves which are the basis of the Soviet Union's wealth

in the absence of a manufacturing industry that can compete on world markets.

But these resources, as well as infrastructure, are now firmly under control of the central Soviet authorities and, ultimately, of Gorbachev.

Russian orthodox monks, priests and bishops elected metropolitan Aleksiy of Leningrad and Novgorod as their new patriarch yesterday, rejecting a conservative who had been serving as temporary head of the church.

The 300-member council chose Aleksiy, whose real name is Alexei Ridiger, rejecting interim head metropolitan Filaret of Kiev and Vladimir of Rostov and Novocherkassk.

Czechs vote in first free election

PRAGUE, June 8. (AP) Voters across the country began voting today for new national and regional parliaments in free elections that leaders hope will remove the final vestiges of Czechoslovakia's communist past.

Polling stations opened across the country at 2 p.m. (1200 GMT) in Czechoslovakia's first free elections in 44 years. Miners in the former communist bastion of Ostrava began voting two hours earlier in some city districts because of the shift worked by coal miners.

Among the first to vote in Prague were President Vaclav Havel's neighbours, Zdenek Zadnik and his wife Milada, who expressed great happiness at being able to cast a free vote for the first time in their lives.

"Yes, I voted in 1946... if you can call it that," said Mrs Zadnik referring to the fact that voters' choice was limited then to parties in the national front, the precursor to what turned into a communist organisation that dominated political life for four decades.

The Zadnicks were among the crowd of about 200 citizens and journalists waiting for the popular president to cast his ballot at central Prague polling station.

"I liked him as a dissident and I like him even more as president," Zadnik said.

The residents of Ostrava, known for four decades as a bastion of orthodoxy communism because of its heavily industrial workforce and Stalinist local leaders, were the first Czechoslovaks to have a free choice at the ballot box.

More than 11 million people aged 18 and over were entitled to vote. Balloting continues tomorrow, with polls closing at 2 p.m. (1200 GMT).

Authorities took the business of a free election seriously imposing a ban on the sales of all alcohol except beer for the two days of voting and sending police to guard public places ranging from polling stations to post office.

The voters will choose 300 deputies to a new federal parliament charged with choosing a new president and then getting to work on revising Czechoslovakia's constitution to remove the last vestiges of 41 years of one-party communism.

The elections will also decide the composition of Czech and Slovak republican parliaments, which have responsibility for key areas of public life such as education and health care.

The fiercest row erupted yesterday between Havel's Civic Forum Movement — which with its Slovak ally public against violence is favoured to emerge strongest from the voting — and the Christian Democrat Alliance of three parties.

■ Bulgaria: Hundreds of thousands chanting singing people jammed the capital's downtown yesterday in rallies for the ruling party and the main opposition three days before the first multi-party elections in 1989.

Nearly half a million people attended a demonstration for the opposition United Democratic Forces and at least 300,000 people turned out for a similar demonstration staged by the ruling Socialist Party, formerly the communist party.

■ The United States has no intention of asking the British government to ban modernisation of its nuclear submarines in order to seal a US-Soviet Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (Start), the Defence Department said yesterday.

■ The superpowers could cut their arsenals of long-range nuclear weapons by three times the amount planned in a nearly completed treaty without endangering security, US and Soviet scientists said.



Gorbachev greets visiting Thatcher for talks at the Kremlin. (Reuter wirephoto)

Denktash designates premier

NICOSIA, June 8. (AP) Rauf Denktash, President of the breakaway Turkish republic of northern Cyprus today asked Dervis Eroglu, chairman of the National Unity Party, to form a new government.

The party, which supports Denktash, captured 34 seats in the 50-seat legislature, with 55 per cent of the votes in the general elections last month.

Eroglu, a 52-year-old physician turned politician, told reporters that he would announce his new cabinet by the end of the next week.

Eroglu has been prime minister since the Turkish Cypriots declared an independent republic in the northern sector of war-divided Cyprus in 1983.

The National Struggle Party, an opposition coalition made up of one conservative and two leftist parties, won 14 seats with 44 per cent of the votes.

A group of 14 opposition deputies has been boycotting the sessions of the newly elected Parliament to protest alleged election irregularities.

The opposition claims that mainland Turkey improperly influenced the election in favour of Denktash and the National Unity Party.

■ Nelson Ledsky, special US coordinator on Cyprus said today Washington was making a new commitment to settle the problem of the war-divided island.

His statement after separate meetings with Greek and Turkish Cypriot leaders boosted expectations of imminent progress toward a solution.

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'A remarkable man'

MILWAUKEE, June 8. (Reuter) President George Bush, praising Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev as a "remarkable man," said yesterday the superpower summit has produced a new era in US-Soviet relations.

Bush, in the midst of a tour of four US states to campaign for Republican political candidates, repeatedly spoke in glowing terms of the four-day summit with Gorbachev.

"We're entering a new era in US-Soviet relations," Bush said in remarks prepared for delivery at a fund-raising event for Wisconsin.

Bush and Gorbachev reached agreement on several issues during the summit, including a reduction in chemical weapons arsenals and a new trade pact, but remained far apart on such subjects as the unification of Germany.

Both sides also were asked to guarantee the safety of everyone under their control.

The council also called for a national conference to discuss the conflict and restoration of democracy.

Doe called on the Bush administration yesterday to help him fend off advancing rebels he charged were backed by Libya, and the United States called on all US citizens to immediately leave the war torn country.

■ Amnesty International yesterday called on government and rebel troops in war-torn Liberia to stop killing civilians and prisoners in their battle for power. (Reuter)

TAMPA, Florida, June 8. (AP) A former army sergeant responsible for safeguarding sensitive documents was arrested on charges he conspired to sell information on the nuclear defence of Europe to Hungary and Czechoslovakia, the FBI said.

"This represents a hemorrhage of extremely sensitive information which caused grave danger to the United States and its Nato allies," FBI agent Allen McCreight said. "We think it has major implications."

Roderick James Ramsay, 28, was arrested without incident last night and was scheduled to appear today before the federal magistrate.

Ramsay worked in West Germany from 1983 to 19

World News Roundup

America

Sentenced to study holocaust:

Author James Michener warned three young men that bigotry "will corrode your soul and imperil your adult lives" and offered to help them fulfill an unusual sentence for antisemitic vandalism.

Michener wrote to the men after learning that a judge had ordered them to learn about the holocaust — the systematic destruction of 6 million Jews by the Nazis before and during World War II.

Part of their assignment: reading a chapter from Michener's book, "Poland."

Trump casinos not for sale: Donald Trump's top gaming executive on Thursday declared that the real estate mogul's three Atlantic city casinos are not for sale as he tried to ease rising fears of a possible cash crunch.

Trump, 43, by far the biggest owner in this seaside gambling resort, has faced a flurry of negative publicity recently over the heavy burden of debt he carries. A banker said Trump is being pressured by his bank lenders to restructure his more than \$2 billion in debt.

Ed Tracy, chief executive of Trump Hotel Management Corp., said the casinos, bolstered by the new Taj Mahal, achieved record revenues last month. (Reuters)

Embryo-divorce dispute: Three state appeals Wednesday sought to cut through the philosophical arguments surrounding the fate of seven frozen human embryos to reach a practical resolution.

"We have to make a decision about what to do with these embryos," said presiding judge Clifford E. Sanders as the court of appeals in Knoxville, Tennessee, heard arguments on a divorce decision that gave the embryos to the wife. (AP)

Foretich talks out: A father accused of sexual abuse in a highly publicized child custody battle said Thursday he should have "backed away" from the bitter fight years ago.

"I would frankly like nothing more than to de-escalate the fight," Eric Foretich said in an interview on radio station Wfir.

Foretich, speaking from his office in Falls Church, Virginia, said he opposes an attempt by his former wife Elizabeth Morgan to gain custody of their daughter, but has filed no formal custody request for the girl himself. (AP)

Trans-Atlantic custody battle: Two children whose divorced parents have been engaged in a six-month trans-Atlantic custody battle must return to Britain so court there can decide their fate, a Broward county judge ruled Thursday.

Circuit Judge Stephen Booher ordered that Alan Harounoff, 10, and Davina Harounoff, 12, be returned to England June 14. The children had been living in Tamarac with their mother, Jacqueline Wiesenfeld, and new step-father, Stephen Wiesenfeld. (UPI)

Jail time for Poindexter: Prosecutors asked a court to send former national security adviser John Poindexter to prison for his role in the Iran-Contra scandal, comparing his actions to giving "a diet of lies" to the Congress.

Poindexter, 53, a former vice-admiral, was convicted of lying to Congress and blocking its investigation into the worst scandal of Ronald Reagan's presidency. (UPI)

Time limit to pick jury: Jury selection lagged behind schedule in the drug and perjury trial of Mayor Marion Barry, while Jesse Jackson said he urged the mayor to drop his plans for re-election to encourage a plea agreement.

Defense lawyers and prosecutors questioned 19 potential jurors from a panel of 250 people on Wednesday, the third day of jury selection. Judge Thomas Penfield Jackson set a five-minute time limit for the questioning of potential jurors, telling the attorneys, "we are way, way behind schedule." (UPI)

Family raises ransom: A Peoria woman whose son is being held for \$60,000 ransom in South America said Thursday contributions were pouring in from around the nation and it appeared they may raise the total amount by the Friday deadline.

In Iowa, meanwhile, abortion loomed as a critical general election issue in the race between incumbent Republican Gov. Terry Branstad, who opposes abortion, and Democratic nominee Don Avenson, who is strongly backed by abortion rights forces.

Overall, nine states held primaries Tuesday. Incumbents faced little trouble in any place they were challenged.

In California, former San Francisco mayor Dianne Feinstein captured the Democratic gubernatorial nomination and immediately set out Wednesday to showcase her differences with Republican Sen. Pete Wilson, who easily won the GOP gubernatorial nod.

Although some Democrats have complained that the moderate Feinstein is too close in outlook to Wilson, she argued Wednesday that the two were "from different political philosophies" and she tried to paint Wilson as an ally of big-money interests.

Museums stage protests: Museums across the United States on Thursday dimmed their gallery lights, shrouded paintings in black and in one case staged a bagpipe-led funeral march to protest against an assault on government funding for the arts.

At issue is a lengthy and unresolved fight in Congress over the future of the national endowment for the arts, the government agency that provides financial backing for a variety of artistic projects. (Reuters)

Senator Kennedy visits grave: Sen. Edward Kennedy visited the grave of his late brother, Sen. Robert Kennedy, at Arlington National Cemetery on Wednesday on the 25th anniversary of his assassination.

The Massachusetts Democrat stood alone, his arms folded and head bowed, at his older brother's grave. He laid a flower on the grave, said a prayer and then paid a visit to President John F. Kennedy's grave nearby. (AP)

Refuses to be intimidated: Health and Human Services Secretary Louis Sullivan, speaking days before an animal rights march on the capital, said he refused to be intimidated by the violent tactics of "animal rights terrorists."

Sullivan predicted the activists "they will not succeed because they are on the wrong side of morality."

Sullivan said animal research has saved millions of lives and holds promise for new therapies to treat devastating illnesses like Alzheimer's disease. (AP)

Lava destroys store: Searing lava from the Kilauea volcano breached a crusted barrier Wednesday and flowed into the Kalapana store and drive-in, incinerating the structure after its elderly owner bid a sad farewell with cake and pastry.

The store and drive-in was the last of three main structures that made up the remote Kalapana village, located on the southeast coast of the island of Hawaii. (UPI)

Nasa flight plans out: The United States will be able to fly only eight of its nine planned shuttle flights this year because its oldest spacecraft, Columbia, is broken, space agency officials said on Thursday.

Four of the missions will be delayed by as

much as four months each while Columbia's leak fuel system is repaired, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (Nasa) said. (Reuters)

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(Reuters

wirephoto)

Asia



World's biggest bridge contest

University student Nikki James, 20, shuffles a deck of cards in her home on June 7 in preparation for the world's biggest bridge contest on June 8. Nikki will take part from Sydney's CentraPoint Tower via satellite with 10,000 bridge players from 90 countries. She hopes that her efforts will be recorded in the Guinness Book of Records. (Reuters wirephoto)

New park opens

A galaxy of film stars turned out in Orlando, Florida, for the opening of a new theme park that gives visitors a chance to bicycle through space with E.T. the Extra Terrestrial, or be hurried about by King Kong.

More than two dozen stars from many of the movies and television shows featured in attractions at Universal Studios' \$630 million park, including Bill Cosby, Jimmy Stewart and Michael J. Fox, attended the ribbon-cutting ceremony.

Thousands of tourists from all over the world braved central Florida's sweltering summer heat to catch glimpses of their favorite celebrities.

The 440-acre (178-hectare) park includes working movie sound stages and tourist attractions featuring scenes from a host of popular movies.

Universal's sprawling new complex represents a serious challenge to Disney world, which operates a similar movie theme park with MGM Studios just a few miles down the road.

One of the most popular attractions at the park promises to be the one featuring the gentle, lovable E.T., the creature who starred in the film of the same name. (Reuters wirephoto)

Campaign in US

Expensive races begin

WASHINGTON, June 8, (UPI): General election campaigns for governor in California and senator in North Carolina began with all signs pointing to battles that would likely be very close, nasty and extraordinarily expensive.

And while Democrats emerged Wednesday from Tuesday's primaries speaking of unity and trying to heal self-inflicted intraparty wounds, they also acknowledged that large amounts of money would be needed as Republicans geared up for some stronger-than-expected challenges in the two races.

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MIDEAST

Likud signs coalition pact

Accord with religious parties and a defector

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM. June 8. (AP): Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir today announced formation of a right-wing coalition cabinet after signing an agreement with a string of far-right and religious factions and a defector from the rival Labour Party. Guidelines of the new government, the first fully controlled by Shamir's right-wing Likud bloc since 1984, promised to "uproot" the 30-month Palestinian uprising and expand Jewish settlements in the occupied territories. The pledges could deepen Israel's tensions with the United States and Europe, both of which have expressed fear a new wave of Soviet immigrants would be settled in the

territories and have questioned the harshness of tactics against the uprising. Shamir announced the government was formed after a ceremony for the signing of the coalition agreement.

"The major effort of the government will be made on the most important issue we are facing today, the absorption of the mass immigration," Shamir said referring to the thousands of Soviet Jews coming to Israel.

"Together with that we'll deal with all the other issues advancing the peace process, solving economic and social problems," he said.

Arabs astonished at the US advice

US policy criticised

TUNIS, June 8. (Reuters): Arab states have told the United States that aspects of its Middle East policy were incomprehensible and unsatisfactory and advised Washington to "turn over a new leaf" if it wanted to avoid Arab criticism.

In a note given to Robert Pelletreau, the US Ambassador in Tunis, the Arab League said its members were astonished at the tone of US advice to last month's Arab summit in Baghdad. The United States gave the League a message on May 17 asking the summit to go beyond previous Arab positions on Middle East peace and steer clear of criticising

Washington by name. The Arab League's six-page answer, delivered on Monday and released in full yesterday, said "Arab officials (at the summit) were astonished at the style in which the US position was formulated and were not satisfied with the US point of view on many issues."

"The Arab states believe that the strategic alliance between Israel and the United States, the amount of military and economic aid and political support which Israel receives from the United States and the lack of adequate effort to make Israel respect international law have

enabled Israel to persist in its attitude," it said.

"It could come about that the United States is not mentioned by name (in Arab resolutions), if the United States abandons his policy of total bias towards Israel and opens a new page in relations with the states of the region," it added.

"The Arab states expect the United States to link its aid to Israel's response to peace initiatives. Such an attitude would help make US policy in the Middle East credible and open a new era in Arab-American relations."

Ethiopian Jews influx

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, June 8. (AP): Ethiopia has promised that as many as 10,000 Jews remaining in the country would be allowed to immigrate to the Jewish state within a year, an Israeli official said yesterday.

The agreement would mean that thousands of families split apart by a secret Israeli rescue called "Operation Moses" could soon be reunited in Israel.

Foreign Ministry Director-General Reuven Merhav said a top Ethiopian official made the promise to allow Jews to exit freely during a trip to Washington earlier this month.

"We have good reason to believe that most of the remaining Ethiopian Jews are now being processed or are in a situation to begin the process," Merhav said on Israeli radio.

"If things continue as they have, it is possible that in a short period of time, within a year, they will all come," he added.

Merhav said it was unclear how many Jews remained behind in Ethiopia since more than 16,000 were brought to Israel with US help in the late 1970s through 1985.

That effort, called "Operation Moses," resulted in many

families being separated causing psychological problems among young Ethiopians who left parents behind.

More than a million Soviet Jews have received Israeli immigration visas, the semi-official Jewish agency yesterday.

The survey encompassed annexed areas of Jerusalem that are excluded by the government, which has claimed the influx of Soviet Jews to occupied land is minuscule.

An Associated Press survey estimates that more than 3,700 Soviet Jews are living on territory seized from Jordan in 1967 far short of the mass influx feared by the Arabs.

In Washington diplomatic sources said the United States had decided to suspend the talks with the PLO and would announce it next week.

The sources, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the administration would cite the Palestinian seaborne raid on Israel last week and the PLO's failure to condemn Abu Abbas, the PLO official who planned the assault.

Baker, responding to rumours a cutoff was imminent, told reporters the talks were continuing while the administration sought to find out "all we need to know" about the circumstances.

He declined to say what information was still lacking.

Four US senators earlier this week introduced legislation urging the administration to end the dialogue because of the PLO's refusal to condemn the thwarted attack.

The sources, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the administration would cite the Palestinian seaborne raid on Israel last week and the PLO's failure to condemn Abu Abbas, the PLO official who planned the assault.

"It was a major step forward, a great success," said Swiss diplomat Johann Manz, UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar's special representative for the region. Manz chaired the meeting of tribal chiefs loyal to Morocco and those seeking independence.

"We are beginning to see the end of the wall," Mohammed Fadil, a chief loyal to the guerrillas fighting for independence, told reporters.

Above: A delegation of Polisario tribal chiefs emerge from the meeting in Geneva, June 5. (Reuters wirephoto)

Ryan later denied there was a shouting match, but acknowledged there were disagreements. "Views were exchanged frankly. They were differing views," he said in a telephone interview from his Athens home Thursday. (AP) ***

EEC, Israel at odds: A government official on Thursday confirmed reports of growing friction between Israel and the European Economic Community which has accused the Jewish state of blocking peace efforts and treating Palestinians too harshly.

The daily Haaretz reported Thursday that relations hit a lot this week when Foreign Minister Moshe Arens met with EEC ambassadors and

engaged in a shouting match with Ireland's Eamon Ryan.

Possible chemical sale to Libya: The United States has received intelligence reports that China may sell Libya chemicals that can be used to make poison gas, the New York Times reported on Thursday.

China Bush administration officials, the newspaper said Washington had asked the Chinese government not to go through with the deal after learning officials from Chinese companies and Libyan officials were holding negotiations about the sale.

The officials said such a sale would violate China's stated commitment not to encourage the spread of poison gas to the Middle East, the newspaper said.

(Reuters) ***

Hurd refuses to condemn: British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd on Thursday rejected Iranian calls to condemn Salman Rushdie's "The Satanic Verses," saying lies with Tehran could improve only if it lifted the death decree against the author.

"Of course as a minister I can't condemn a book written by a British subject," Hurd told British Broadcasting Corporation television.

"I have said, the prime minister has said, that we have a high respect for Islam and that is certainly genuine... but we can't get, obviously, into the business of condemning books." (Reuters)

EEC model for Mideast: Former Israeli foreign minister Abba Eban on Wednesday night cited the European Economic Community as a possible model for Israel and their Arab neighbours.

"Europe of the twelve has reconciled national independence with regional integration in a pattern that is directly relevant for study by Israelis, Jordanians and Palestinians," he said.

He was addressing a dinner at the United Nations, chaired by former US Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, to honour Eban's 75th birthday, which he actually celebrated last February. (Reuters) ***

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In Algeria where Tuesday's election will be the first under a multiparty system, fundamentalist



Closer to peace

Tribal chiefs and UN officials have steered the Western Sahara closer to peace after two days of talks on a self-determination referendum for the disputed territory, participants said on Thursday.

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groups have aligned under the banner of the Islamic Salvation Front. Its candidates are running in almost all the 1,541 municipalities and provincial councils.

But in Tunisia, where the government has withheld official recognition of Islamic groups on the ground that God belongs to all Tunisians, the fundamentalists have declared an official boycott on Sunday's elections. Thus, the anti-government sentiment will be gauged by the number of abstentions.

The elections will be the second time Tunisian voters have had a free choice.

In legislative elections in 1988, the ruling con-

servative democratic rally won every seat in the national assembly. Opposition parties later accused the ruling party of having abused its control of state funds, transport and mass media.

This year said the Tunisian periodical Maghreb, "all the elements are present. There are numerous determined opposition parties, there is a dominating and self-assured party in power, a state sworn to impartiality, thousands of ballot boxes and the voters ready, for once, to go to the theatre. And yet the play will not be performed. It is a sad spectacle."

By contrast, a genuine election contest is expected in Algeria where almost all parties will compete.

Multiparty system faces decisive test in Algeria, Tunis rivals to boycott polls

ALGIERS, June 8. (AP): The readiness of voters in Algeria and Tunisia to accept multi-party in local democracy is being put to a decisive test in local elections Sunday and Tuesday.

In both countries, the governing party — which has held sole power since French colonial rule ended decades ago — is virtually certain to win control of a large majority of councils.

The main question in the two North African neighbours is the level of support amassed by radical Islamic groups among voters unaccustomed to being given a choice.

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Nasser kin faces trial

Khaled Abdel Nasser, the eldest son of late Egyptian leader Gamal Abdel Nasser, smiles to reporters while sitting in his cage at a Cairo court on June 7. Khaled, who came back to Egypt suddenly last night after living in self-imposed exile in Eastern Europe for more than two years, faces death the penalty for his alleged role in the murder of Israeli diplomats in Egypt. (Reuters wirephoto)

Nasser freed

Bail in terror trial

CAIRO, June 8. (AP): A judge yesterday released on bail former president's eldest son, wore a dark grey suit and white shirt and sat calmly inside a barred defendant's cage during most of the court session.

After Ismail adjourned the session to Saturday, the graying and bespectacled Nasser said, "I trust the justice of the Egyptian judiciary." He refused to say more.

Nasser and 19 others are accused of four terror attacks against Israeli and American diplomats, one a year between 1984 and 1987. The attacks left two Israeli dead and six Israelis and two Americans wounded.

Prosecutors are demanding death for Khaled and 10 others. The other nine charged with complicity face prison terms of up to 25 years if convicted.

Militants gain influence

US distrusted by both Israel, Arabs

WASHINGTON, June 8. (Reuters): Hardliners and militants are gaining power and influence in Israel and the Arab world, diplomats and officials say, and the United States, which tried to get Israel and the Palestinians to talk peace, is now distrusted by both sides.

Relations with Israel have been soured by a series of bitter clashes over settlements in the occupied territories and Washington also faces a tough decision on whether to break off contact with the Palestine Liberation Organisation after a PLO faction raided Israeli beaches last week.

"One gets the feeling the region is heading back towards war," said Martin Indyk, director of the Washington Institute for Near East Policy, a Middle East think-tank.

"It's like riding a bicycle. If you're not moving forward with a peace process, you fall off the bicycle and there is a slide back to rejectionist attitudes."

US administration officials agree, saying that without a viable, active peace process, it was difficult to control a tendency towards greater violence and hard to make a case for pragmatism and against extremism.

Officials are disturbed by what they say is a return to aggressive rhetoric in the Arab world as personified by Iraq's Saddam Hussein, seen in Washington as an advocate of confrontation rather than accommodation with Israel.

Playing on Arab fears about a wave of Jewish emigration from the Soviet Union to Israel and buoyed by his country's formidable military power, Hussein has twice threatened in recent months to burn half of Israel with chemical weapons if the Jewish state attacks any Arab country.

He emerged from last month's Arab summit in Baghdad as the new pre-eminent force in the Arab world. Even traditionally moderate, pro-Western states such as Jordan, which is beset by Washington can live with.

"If the United States cuts the dialogue, it will be the end of the peace process and it would put Egypt in a very bad position," said one Arab diplomat.

Egypt to intervene at Beirut request

BEIRUT, June 8. (Agencies): Egyptian Prime Minister Atif Sidqi today was quoted as saying Egypt would intervene if Lebanon asked it to do so in a bid to settle the 15-year-old civil strife.

In remarks published today by the local daily Al Safir, Sidqi added that "Egypt does not exercise pressure on any side but will intervene if it was asked to do so to use logic and wisdom in settling the crisis."

He described as successful the recent talks held in Cairo between President Mubarak and Lebanese President Elias Hirawi and reiterated his country's firm support to Lebanese unity and sovereignty.

Diplomatic sources told Kuna that President Hirawi asked President Mubarak to exert pressure on Israel to force it pull out from Lebanon and cease interfering in Lebanon's internal affairs.

The sources hinted that Libya, which President Hirawi is currently visiting, might provide him with weapons and financial assistance.

President Hirawi is due later today in Tunis on the last leg of his tour which he started last Tuesday.

Rival Christian forces of rebel Gen. Michel Aoun and militia chieftain Samir Geagea skirmished with mortars and machine-guns in east Beirut today and US Ambassador John McCarthy urged the defiant officer to step down.

Police said one person was wounded by sniper fire in east Beirut's district of Ashrafieh before the exchange died down at 4:30 am (0130 GMT).

The intermittent clash violated a shaky ceasefire that was called May 17 to halt more than four months of intra-Christian clashes for dominance of a tiny enclave northeast of Beirut.

McCarthy said he informed President Hirawi in Cairo early this week of the American administration's "support for the legal Lebanese authority to enable it to carry out its responsibilities."

Rival Shiite Muslims whose three-year-old feud for supremacy has killed 970 people have held their first peace talks in 16 months, militant sources said today.

Iran and Syria arranged the meeting between the Shiite Muslim Amal militia and its rival Hezbollah group in Beirut, the sources said.

■ Shiite Muslim chieftain Nahid Berri today offered to exchange the bodies of two Israeli soldiers for the more than 300 Arabs held by an Israeli-backed militia in south Lebanon.

"We've told the International Committee of the Red Cross that we have the bodies of two Israeli soldiers and we're willing to exchange them for all detainees at Khamis prison," Berri told a news conference at his vacation home in Masleeh town.

■ An Israeli military

EVENTS

Hotel Beat

Japanese touch at International

Mine Inazuki has recently joined the sales team of Kuwait International Hotel. After having obtained her degree in Business Administration from Aoyama Gakuin University, Tokyo, she worked for the liaison offices of several multinational companies. She has been in Kuwait for several years working closely with the business community. Before joining Kuwait International Hotel she worked for a private company in the Sales and Administration area. Right Mine Inazuki



Abu Shaar returns

Fahad Abu Shaar, a familiar personality in hotel circles, moved back to the Sheraton Hotel. Abu Shaar, who has been in the hotel field for several years, has extensive experience in five star hotels in Europe and the Middle East. He comes back to the Sheraton as its resident manager. Picture below shows Abu Shaar being welcomed to the hotel.



Versailles challenge

The Meridien Hotel, Kuwait, launched a new programme to recognize the supporters of their Versailles Restaurant. Anyone making five or more bookings between now and the end of this year will receive a range of gifts including a room for the weekend at the Meridien, Kuwait, complete with meals. Anyone making advance bookings can qualify for these prizes. Right: The Versailles buffet.



This week on KTV2

SUNDAY
June 10
6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 The Bears: cartoon serial
6.30 The Beachcombers "Free Ascent". Pat and Graham discover a shipwreck and plan to salvage it...
7.00 The Politics of Food: "Brazil". Documentary.
8.00 News in English
8.40 Matlock: Ben's client, a journalist, pleads guilty against his advice.
9.30 Body Matters: "What Is Your Poison". Tonight's episode examines the effects of alcohol on the human body.
10.00 The Two of Us: "Basketball Gabby". New series.
10.30 Best-Seller: "Always Afternoon". Romance between an Australian woman and a German prisoner of war.
12.00 News in Brief
12.10 Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown



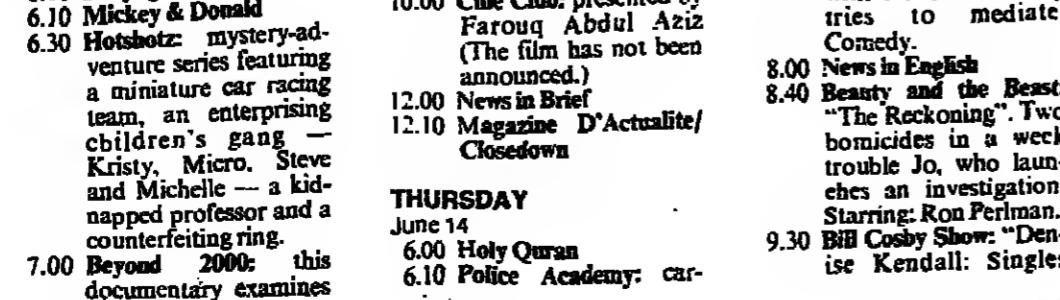
Robert Clothier and Bruno Gerussi play Nick and Relic in Beachcombers, Sunday.

MONDAY
June 11
6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 Thunder Cats: cartoons
6.30 Animals of Africa: "In the Fever Tree". Tropical Forest. Focus on Madagascar's forests.
7.00 Roving Report: weekly roundup of Arab and world news.
7.30 Charles-in-Charge: "Charging Charles". Charles' credit card is misplaced... Comedy.
8.00 News in English
8.40 Around the World: a global view of the world.
9.00 The Equalizer: "Mystery of Mannon". Evetie seeks McCall's help to save her father, Marcel. Starring: Edward Woodward.
10.00 Family Matters: "Man's Best Friend". Carl brings a dog home... Comedy.
10.30 Classic Colour Movies: "Twelfth Night".
12.00 News in Brief
12.10 Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown



Candice Bergen anchors in Murphy Brown, Tuesday.

TUESDAY
June 12
6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 The Lone Ranger
6.30 The New Mickey Mouse Club: a variety show for young viewers from Disney.
7.00 Quran and Science: "How Did Creation Start?"
7.30 Kate and Allie: "Kate



Map showing the Inner and Outer London areas.

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

9.00 Holy Quran
9.15 Nabi wa Saleh
9.35 Itah Ya Simsim: Sesame Street. Arabic version.
10.05 News Summary
10.30 Ahlam Al Zahira: Arabic serial. Part One. Starring: Majdi Wahba, Karima Mukhtar, Anwar Ismael, Madhi Hamdi, Ibrahim Shami.
11.15 Good Morning
12.00 Al Raseef Al Barid: Arabic serial. Ep. 1. Starring: Shafiqah Al Tall, Fuad Shumaili, Reem Saada.
1.00 News Summary
1.05 World News via Satellite
1.20 Songs
1.30 Sanvar: part one; cartoon serial
2.00 News in Arabic
2.15 Ailah Bu Jassoum: Kuwaiti serial, featuring Hassan Al Qattan, Abdul Wahab Dosari, Moosa Al Hanzeen.
3.00 Hadith Al Imaan: religious programme, part one presented by Sheikh Muftiwalli Al Sharawi. Focus on Haj.
3.45 Azhar Min Al Bait Al Qadeem: Arabic

serial, starring Amina Rizk, Abdul Aziz Mukhiyyoun, May, Sabri Abdulkunim.
5.30 Sallycartoon serial
6.00 Young Artists
6.30 Noor Al Islam: the light of Islam. Religious programme presented by Mohammad Al Sheikh.
7.30 Songs
8.00 Weekly Seminar
9.00 News in Arabic
9.45 Al Rajul Wal Qataar: Episode 6

10.35 Songs
11.00 Sa'aleek Lakin Shura: Ep. 6
12.00 News Summary
12.05 World News via Satellite
12.25 Holy Quran/Closedown

Sports TV 6/45

5.00 Opening
5.10 Sports Analysis
6.00 World Cup: USSR v Romania (live)
10.00 World Cup: UAE v Colombia (live)
12.10 World Cup: Italy v Austria (recorded)

KTV 2

6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 Brave Star: cartoon serial

6.30 Take Hart: programme for children
7.00 Survival: "Subtle As A Serpent". A serpentine tale, this episode examines some of the 2,000 kinds of snakes, including the 15 venomous serpents.
7.30 Out Of This World: "Eve's Geist". Eve has a touch of flu...

8.00 News in English
8.40 Murder She Wrote: "Seal of the Confessional". Jessica sympathises with a young man accused of killing a businessman. Starring Angela Lansbury.

9.30 The Road To War: "Japan". The Japanese Imperial Army swept into Manchuria in 1931 throwing the Far East into chaos. European interests were threatened. Tonight's documentary examines Japan's role in the war.

10.30 Thursday Movie: "Still Watching". The story of a successful television journalist who harbours a terrible secret.

12.00 News in Brief
12.10 Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown

Please note that Kuwait Television programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

PRAYERS

Fajr	3.13 am
Dhuhr Prayer	11.47
Aср	3.21 pm
Maghreb	6.47
Isha	8.18

CINEMA

Al Andalus
Hanafi Al Abah (Arabic)
Starring: Adel Imam, Huda Ramzi, Farouk Fishawi

Al Salamiya
Al Ragassah: Waf Siyasi (Arabic)
Starring: Nabila Obaid, Salah Qabil

Al Hama
Khiltah Al Shatian (Arabic)
Starring: Karan Mutawa, Subair Ramzi

Drive-In
Al Ragassah: Waf Siyasi (Arabic)
Starring: Nabila Obaid, Salah Qabil

Al Firdous
Kasam Vardi Ki (Hindi)
Starring: Jeetendra, Bhanu Priya

Fahheel Open-Air
Parinda (Hindi)
Starring: Anil Kapoor, Nana Patekar

Al Fahabeel
Artham (Malayalam)

Al Jabra
Mag Wheels
Granada
Cry Freedom

Salaibikhat
Aib Ya Rustom (Arabic)

Al Jileeb
Jagrata (Malayalam)
Ahmed Drive-In
Night Wars

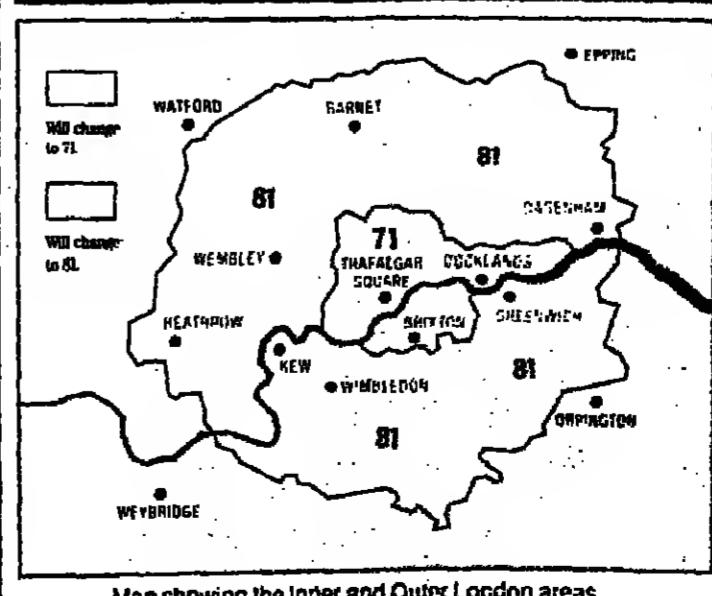
All entries for the What's On column can be sent by telex (22332) to Events Section or hand delivered daily, except Thursdays, from 12 noon to 4 pm, at the Arab Times Office in Shuwaikh. Photographs will also be considered for publication. Phoned-in entries will not be accepted.

London direct dialling code changed: ministry

THE direct dialling codes to London changed from May 6, 1990. A spokesman of the ministry of communication said that although the public has been informed they continue to use the previous code (1). This has resulted in a heavy load on the international exchange due to incomplete calls.

The spokesman has asked subscribers to note the change in London codes. The new codes are: inner London: (71) and Outer London: (81).

The spokesman said Kuwait subscribers normally deal with people in the inner London areas and have advised them to use the code (71). If the number requested is not within the inner-London area, a recording will inform the call that the dialed code is wrong and the caller can try the code (81).



Action Line

SIR, I presently work at an embassy. I would like to know if I am terminated, or if I resign, can my residence be shifted to the private sector. Please explain.

THIS depends on the approval of the Minister of Social Affairs and Labour. Employees at diplomatic missions come under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. If you want to change your residence to the private sector, you must apply for permission and approval, addressing your letter to the minister of social affairs and labour or the undersecretary. At the time of applying, you must also submit copies of papers showing previous sponsorship and documents proving the new sponsor's request seeking transfer or residence. The officials reserve the right to accept or reject an application.

I CAME to Kuwait in March 1989 to work as a driver at an embassy on visa No. 17. Before my arrival, my sponsor left the country as he was recalled. For the last one year of service, I have been facing several problems. I have not been given the driver's job. I am also not paid the promised salary of KD80. I receive only KD40 per month. I have to work at the embassy and in the house. Is there any rule that a person should work in two houses for one salary? If I complain to the charge of the embassy, they tell me to go back to my country. If they send me back will they pay the remaining one year salary?

D.B.J.
YOUR case cannot be handled legally or through the private sector law. It is advisable to approach the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to settle the same.

I HAVE been employed by a company since July 1989 and was terminated in April 1990 without any reason.

1. Is my residence transferable?

2. Will my employer provide my plane ticket to my country?

3. Can I oblige my employer to give me more time to look for another job?

4. If I find a new employer who can give an NOC, can I go to Iraq and return to Kuwait? Will my former employer provide my plane ticket if I went back to my country?

E.L.C.
1. NO. Your visa is not transferable, because you have joined the company in July 1989 (and you have not completed three years employment).

2. This depends on the contract; if your contract says you should get the ticket, you will get it. If the matter has not been covered in the contract, in case of a dispute, the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour will decide whether you're eligible or not. In your case, you must check with the ministry.

3. No, you can't oblige your employer to give you more time to look for a job. The main factor about changing your job is to have completed three years with one employer; and as you have not completed the required duration, it would be illegal to work elsewhere. If you found work illegally, under another sponsor, you may be deported. And if you don't work for another employer but are searching for a job, it would create a problem for the sponsor, who won't be allowed to bring a replacement.

4. This depends on the procedures applied in your country; if it is required to authenticate documents in your country of origin, then you must go back.

I BOUGHT a car two months ago and paid for the vehicle. The car owner recently died of a heart attack, before transferring the car in my name. Now, I can't transfer the car to my name nor can I renew the registration.

I have been told that until the power of attorney is given to someone in the owner's family, it is not possible to transfer the car. This could take even a year. How can I overcome this problem in the quickest possible time?

K.M.A.
WITHIN six months of the death of the owner, you can file a case against the heirs — or make a general case without naming heirs — to seek a transfer of residence. After that, a case can be filed against the heirs, and get a judgement sought on documentary or witness testimony. When you get a judgement, the car can be transferred in your name.

I HAVE worked in Kuwait for the past three years. My company's office is in Kuwait City. I would like to join another company in Kuwait City. My sponsor says that the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour will not change my papers because the offices of both sponsors are in Kuwait City. Is this true that we can't change if both sponsors' offices are in Kuwait City?

A reader.
THIS is not true. More than 50 per cent of the companies are located in Kuwait City. This can't be a reason for preventing transfer of residence. There must be some other reason, and it would be advisable to check with your employer to find out the real cause.

I AM a Filipina working in Kuwait as a domestic helper. I want to complete one year employment and return to my own country. I will buy my own ticket. I want to cancel my visa so that I can come back if I find an employer who gives holiday at least once a month.

E.G.A.
YOU did not mention the duration of your contract. If there is no contract, it is advisable to discuss the matter with your employer. Tell them you are planning to leave the country and don't want to come back. You can ask them to cancel your visa.

In the meantime, you can ask your employer to give you a rest day each month. Explain your difficulties and see if you can come to an agreement with them. If you have a contract, it is advisable to abide by its terms.

I WORK as a domestic on visa No. 20. I am expecting a baby in August. My husband is employed with a Kuwaiti company, and holds visa No. 18, but his salary is not sufficient to sponsor our child. I would like to know if my baby is born in Kuwait how long can I keep the child before returning to my country. I understand the baby will be recorded in my husband's passport. How do I exit with the baby and what documents will I require?

E. Natavio
A MOTHER holding visa No. 20 is allowed to deliver the baby in Kuwait. Under residence rules neither parent — mother or father — can get a visa (iqama) for the child. If the child's name is endorsed in the father's passport by his embassy, the infant would be considered as staying without a visa in the country. Such a child's name cannot be included in the mother's passport. If such a baby is born here, both the child and mother have to leave the country.

If you have a problem drop in a line to Action Line, Arab Times, P.O. Box 2270, 13023 Safat, Kuwait or fax your questions to us on 4847495.

KD 12.7 m AFESD loan to Iraq

KUWAIT, June 8. (Kuna): The Kuwait-based Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development (AFESD) extended two separate loans to Iraq totalling KD12.7 million raising the fund's contributions in Iraqi development projects to KD50.8 million (KD1 equals \$3 approximately), a press release said here today.

The release said the first loan agreement of KD4.2 million will be used to establish a slaughterhouse and factory for meat industry in the southern Iraqi city of Basra.

The loan, with an interest of

Kuwait renews commitment to Palestinians

Joint Arab Defence council called for

VIENNA, June 8. (Kuna): Kuwait has renewed its commitment to continue its support for the Palestinian people in their just struggle to attain their national rights and to back up the Palestinian resistance against Israeli occupation.

Addressing an informal meeting of donor countries to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees (Unrwa), member of the Kuwait permanent delegation at the UN headquarters in Vienna, Al Saeed pointed out that Kuwait's support to the Palestinian people and their uprising against the occupation authorities was not verbal obligation but an obligation supported by figures.

He indicated that the total financial assistance offered by Kuwait in support of the uprising on the official and popular levels had reached \$83 million during the last two years.

Saeed expressed Kuwait's concern over Israeli inhuman practices and persecution and oppression against the Palestinians under occupation.

Unrwa's Director Giacometti said that the agency was facing serious financial

deficit amounting to \$30 million, indicating that the agency's obligations were badly affected by this failure.

He called on the international community to increase donations to enable the agency to carry out its task for supporting the Palestinian refugees in the occupied Arab land, Lebanon and Syria.

Projects

Unrwa is supervising relief projects for more than 2.5 million Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, Lebanon, Jordan and Syria, especially in the fields of education and health.

Meanwhile, a PLO executive committee member yesterday said that the message sent recently to Palestinian President Yasser Arafat by the US administration stressed that convening an emergency international peace summit would not provide results and would only demolish peace progress achieved till now.

Salman Al Najab told a local daily that all US messages whether direct or indirect hold the same contents and are always against the Arabs and the Palestinian people, in particular.

The US veto concerning sending United Nations Security Council fact-finding mission to the occupied lands to investigate Israeli aggressive practice is considered a clear message of defiance to the recent decisions adopted by the summit in Baghdad, the Palestinian official said.

Najab called on the Arabs to take a unified stance against "this challenge."

Responsibility

He added that the PLO would issue a statement stressing Washington's responsibility for war in the Middle East he said the US was "the only country that isolated itself from the international unanimity that denounced Israel which had refused all concerned efforts to convene an international peace conference."

In a related development, member of Fatah Central Committee, Khaled Al Hassan told another daily that the decision by Washington to stop dialogue with the PLO would be a blow to the peace process and a preparation for exploding the situation in the region.

He said however, that "it is better for us to stop the dialogue which began

December 1988 because it was not a real dialogue and we believe that the real dialogue between the US and the PLO has not begun yet."

He explained saying that real dialogue is not meetings between two ambassadors and exchange of letters as the present case is, but it should be at all levels and in all capitals and not only in Tunis.

He added that "it is better not to continue with this dialogue and to resume it on a new and solid basis."

He stressed that the Palestinian-US dialogue could not be stopped for ever because the crisis is a moving process.

For

He added "I do not know what the plans of US officials are, but may be they do not move or do not want to move seriously unless a war or a military confrontation in the region takes place."

Answering a question on the opinion of the Palestinian leadership about the US demand to expel member of the PLO executive committee Mohammed Abus (Abu Abbas) from the committee

because of the commando operation his front has carried out last week. Hassan said "we do not expel anyone in order to appease the US," adding that this reflects clearly the American arrogance of force."

Another Kuwaiti daily meanwhile has called for revival of the eastern front and the joint Arab Defence Council to confront dangers facing the Arab nation.

The daily said that "available information from various sources affirm that Iraq is preparing for aggression against Iraq and the Palestinian intifada."

The paper called on the Arabs to learn from the Israeli attack on the Iraqi nuclear reactor in 1980, affirming that this means that enemies will continue to destroy scientific and technological development in the Arab nation.

Israel attacked the Iraqi nuclear reactor because this was the first attempt to break the siege imposed on the Arabs from obtaining necessary technology. The daily noted.

The daily urged all Arabs to unify ranks and stand by Iraq to defend the Arab nation's right to development.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Cultural document

TUNIS, June 8. (Kuna): Kuwait handed the Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organisation (Alesco) a document, which included its endorsement of the Arab agreement for the facilitation of Arab cultural production, which was signed at 6th session of the conference of Arab ministers responsible for cultural affairs.

Kuwait's permanent representative to the organisation, Taleb Al Baghili told Kuna here yesterday that he conveyed the document, signed by HH the Amir of Kuwait Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed Al Sabah, to Alesco's Director-General Dr Mesare Al Rawi.

Twenty countries have signed the said agreement and four have endorsed it, namely Kuwait, Tunisia, Jordan and Republic of Yemen.

Iranian overtures

ABU DHABI, June 8. (Kuna): A United Arab Emirates newspaper yesterday welcomed statements by Iranian President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani in which he expressed readiness to meet Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

"Such readiness is a good indication of optimism that a permanent and comprehensive peace will prevail in the Gulf and positively affect the whole region," Al Fajr said.

Rafsanjani's offer deserves welcome on the Gulf, Arab and Islamic levels," it added.

It said the Iranian offer was in response to Iraqi peace initiatives and added: "It is necessary that the Iranian leader's overture is met with positive responses especially as forces hostile to Arabs and Muslims could throw their weight to sabotage the new peace developments."

"What we hope now is that preliminary talks on an experts level will precipitate an Iraq-Iran summit," it said.

Housing meeting

KUWAIT, June 8. (Kuna): His Highness the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdulla Al Salem Al Sabah presided over a meeting of the Higher Planning Council on Wednesday.

The council's secretary-general Ibrahim Majid Al Shaheen told Kuna that the meeting discussed means of finding new financing in compliance with Sheikh Saad's directives to shorten the waiting period for attaining housing care.

He said the meeting was presented with a study focussing on establishing a housing market to which the state and financial institutions would contribute.

Shaheen said the meeting further discussed a report prepared by the Public Authority for Housing on designs for proposed projects and another one by Kuwaiti Municipality on unutilised land plots in Kuwait City.

Bahraini minister

KUWAIT, June 8. (Kuna): Bahrain's Development and Industry Minister and Acting State Minister for Cabinet Affairs Yousef Al Sherawi, currently visiting the country, met with Oil Minister Sheikh Ali Al Athbi Al Sabah.

During the meeting which was attended by board members of Kuwait Petroleum Corporation and head of the visiting minister's office, they exchanged cordial talks and viewpoints on Kuwaiti-Bahraini relations in the oil area and ways to strengthen them.



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Qatar, Saudis ban British beef

DOHA, June 8. (AP): The Qatari government banned the import of beef from Britain and Ireland yesterday becoming the second Gulf state to take such measures amid reports that some herds in the United Kingdom were suffering from mad-cow disease.

The Qatar News Agency said that the ban on meat was imposed a day after the government stopped the import of live cows from the United Kingdom.

It quoted an unnamed official of the Ministry

of Municipal Affairs and Agriculture as saying the ban was motivated "by concern about protecting the consumer after the spread of mad-cow disease in the British Isles."

Earlier in the week a similar ban was clamped in neighbouring Saudi Arabia on the import of beef from Britain and Ireland.

Mad-cow disease, or bovine spongiform encephalopathy, has already killed 13,000 cows in Britain over the past four years. But its effect, if any, on humans remains unknown.

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EDITORIALS

ARAB TIMES
Thought for today

FAIRNESS is what justice is all about.—Potter Stewart,
US Supreme Court Justice (1915—)

Life in Beirut**Problems bridge religious divide**

BEIRUT, Lebanon. (AP): Many Muslim and Christian families are reaching out to help each other survive, finding common ground in the suffering wrought by 15 years of civil war.

Mazen, a Sunni Muslim who lives in Muslim west Beirut, ran the gauntlet of snipers to drive into east Beirut to rescue Joseph and his family. Christian friends trapped by fighting between Christian factions.

"I knew I could get killed, but these are my friends," Mazen said. "I couldn't bear the idea of them under that murderous shelling, without food or water. I knew that if I didn't bring them... they'd never think of coming here."

Mazen, Joseph and several Christians interviewed after fleeing east Beirut asked not to be identified further. The Christians fear being harassed or killed by the warring factions if they return to Christian east Beirut.

The 15-year-old civil war has created religious and psychological barriers for many Lebanese, deepening the sectarian divisions that always have festered.

Now, some of those barriers are eroding because of the suffering inflicted on Christians by the months-long battle between the forces of rebel Gen. Michel Aoun and Samir Geagea, leader of the Lebanese Forces militia.

Fled

Police say more than 200,000 people have fled the 310-square-mile (800-square-kilometre) Christian enclave north and east of Beirut, where one million lived before the battle began on Jan. 30.

Tens of thousands, like Joseph and his family, have found sanctuary in Muslim areas. Some returned to villages they fled years ago.

It is impossible to predict whether the new Christian-Muslim co-existence will expand or help end the war, in which about 150,000 people have been killed.

More than 1,000 people have been killed and nearly 3,000 wounded, most of them civilians, in the fight for control of the Christian enclave. It is the worst fighting between Christians since the civil war began in April 1975.

Many Christians fled Lebanon through the port of Jounieh, north of Beirut, where ferries from Cyprus regularly run through shellfire to pick up Christians.

Street-fighting in the enclave eventually blocked roads to Jounieh, however, and thousands of people like Joseph found themselves with no choice but Muslim areas as a refuge.

They also found an unexpected welcome.

"The Muslims didn't kill us and eat our flesh as we'd been told by the Lebanese Forces," Joseph said, relaxing in Mazen's house with his wife, Ferai, their 6-year-old son Tony, and baby daughter Rana.

"We've made a lot of Muslim friends here. We have breakfast with one family at their home and we're invited to lunch at another. We meet these people every day now."

"Our Muslim friends shower the children with toys and clothes, although my financial situation is far better than theirs," said the 36-year-old real estate agent.

Sects

Lebanon has at least 17 Christian and Muslim sects that live side-by-side for decades, usually in clearly defined areas, but often in mixed communities. It was a fragile unity, but it worked.

The region north of Beirut was the heartland of Maronite Catholics, the dominant sect. Maronites controlled the government, parliament, judiciary and army after Lebanon's independence from France in 1943, which fostered jealousy and animosity among Muslims.

After the war began, Christians were driven from Muslim areas in the Chouf mountains, west Beirut and the coastal plain south of the capital.

Many Christians have remained in west Beirut, especially leftist Greek Orthodox, but tens of thousands of refugees, mostly Maronites, packed into east Beirut and the shrinking Christian enclave.

Joseph and Mazen were introduced eight years ago by a mutual friend, an army officer now fighting for Aoun. They kept in touch and Mazen regularly slipped into east Beirut to visit.

Mazen said he decided to try rescuing Joseph's family because "I knew they would never think of seeking refuge in west Beirut."

He set out in his small car during an afternoon lull in shelling and entered east Beirut through the Muslim crossing, the only gateway between the two sectors.

"There was a lot of sniper fire," he said. "I had to take a long way around to Joseph's house.... the trip normally takes 15 minutes. That day it took me two hours.... Joseph had mixed feelings about coming with me to west Beirut, but I insisted."

"Finally, I asked him, 'Do you think you and your kids can take much more of this?' he said no, and we started packing."

Joseph said: "I realized that if we stayed in east Beirut, we'd be committing suicide. Our house had already been hit. It was either die... or take our chances in west Beirut."

Christians who sought refuge at the Sunni Muslim Ibbad El Rabban mosque in west Beirut also were overwhelmed by Muslim hospitality.

"They gave us mattresses, pillows and blankets," said a woman who gave her name as Hala. "They give us everything we ask for — meat, rice, bread and water."

Sanctuary

Hala fled to the Muslim sector a few weeks ago with her 11-year-old daughter, her sister, niece and mother.

Ahu George, a farmer, is among about 70,000 Christians who have sought sanctuary in the Syrian-controlled Bekaa Valley of eastern Lebanon.

"We were living on the edge of death," he said. "After several days in the underground shelter, we ran out of water, flour and food."

He took his seven children for his old village of Deir Al Ahmar, where they were given a welcome he was not sure they would receive.

TODAY IN HISTORY

- 68 — Roman Emperor Nero commits suicide.
- 1572 — Turkish fleet puts to sea against Don John of Austria to complete capture of Cyprus.
- 1752 — French forces at Trichinopoly in India surrender to British.
- 1800 — Austrians are defeated by French in battle of Monzambano, Italy.
- 1827 — Turkey rejects allied note for truce with Greece.
- 1896 — Russo-Japanese agreement recognises Russia's position in Korea.
- 1915 — Severe riots break out in Moscow.
- 1916 — Grand sheriff of Makkah revolts against Turkey.
- 1940 — Norway's army surrenders to Nazis in World War II.
- 1961 — United Nations calls on Portugal to cease repressive measures in Angola.
- 1972 — US planes raid perimeters of Hanoi and Haiphong in most concentrated bombing of North Vietnam's military heartland in more than four years.
- 1975 — Philippines establishes diplomatic relations with China, breaking its ties with Nationalist Chinese government on Taiwan.
- 1984 — Heavy damage and casualties are reported as Iran and Iraq trade air attacks on residential areas across their 1,180-kilometre border.
- 1987 — Western leaders, at summit in Venice, renounce making deals with terrorists and endorse nuclear deterrence.
- 1989 — Two bombs blow up seconds apart on main seaside boulevard in Syrian-controlled west Beirut, killing three people and wounding four others.

**PLO peace dividend meagre****Leadership reassesses strategy****Habash admits policy shift**

DAMASCUS, (CMS): As a measure of the distance travelled in recent months even by radical leaders of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) are preparing to reassess their strategy for achieving a Palestinian state.

At a November 1988 meeting of the Palestine National Council (PNC), the legislature-in-exile, the PLO abandoned a 25-year goal by agreeing, in effect, to share Palestine with Israel. A month later, PLO leader Yasser Arafat explicitly recognised the Jewish state and renounced terrorism.

"Myself, the state I'm demanding now is the West Bank, East Jerusalem, and Gaza," says the longtime Marxist leader of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP). "But I'm not ready to mention this publicly. Maybe after an international conference and Israeli recognition of the Palestinian right to exist."

"Palestinians do not want a totally different (policy) but one that stresses very accurately our three main rights: self-determination, the right of return, and having our own state," Habash says. The mechanism (for attaining these rights) not through a meeting in Cairo, but through an international conference."

On Arafat's leadership, Habash adds: Arafat told his people that we are a metre stick having our own state. As a result, the two years past have led to discouragement. Brother Arafat has created a false sense of expectations. He should have told Palestinians that their struggle would be very long and hard.

"We have to show (Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak) Shamir and (former defense minister Ariel) Sharon that Israel is losing, not gaining, from the occupation — by boycotting Israeli goods, stopping tourism, keeping Palestinian workers from jobs in Israel."

"The Palestinians must feel that what is important to me is not how much I am suffering, but how much the Israelis suffer. I am ready to bear much more than the Israelis can bear because they want a normal life." You can have your own state only if you decide to fight forever if necessary."

The second largest PLO faction, the PFLP carried out several attacks in the early 1970s, including the hijacking of four airliners to Jordan in 1970. Several hundred PFLP troops are based in Syria and Lebanon. For the first time since the uprising the PFLP earlier this year issued its own leaflets calling for violent attacks on Israelis and condemning the proposed Israeli-Palestinian dialogue in Cairo backed by Arafat.

On the issue of armed struggle, Habash says: "At present, we are keen to have mass demonstrations shape the uprising. With women and kids with stones facing the Israelis we gain a lot. But I'm ready to think of human losses of Israelis, provided they are soldiers."

"Sometimes I think that there is no other way but a Likud government, so the Sharon himself will come to the conclusion that he cannot put an end to the uprising. Then a big, wide door will open in front of us," says Habash. "Israel will not come to the conclusion to make peace with Palestinians until they try all means and all of them fail."

Palestinian self-determination a reality.

Combined with frustration is impatience with Israel's intransigence and fear that without some matching concessions from Israel, the role of the PLO in the territories could gradually become marginalised by the growing strength of extremist Muslim fundamentalist groups.

When the PNC convenes, the mood will be darkened by the growing realisation that the PLO has few new options to draw on, that the intifada itself may provide insufficient leverage to force concessions from Israel, and that success in winning a Palestinian state will be contingent on gaining more active support from the Arab world.

"At the next PNC there will be less romantic

euphoria," says Shaath. "There are fewer illusions that the Palestinian state will come tomorrow. The PNC will become more businesslike in its attempt to deal with issues one at a time."

"We do not have many options," concedes a Damascus-based Palestinian official.

Bowing to pressures from the Palestinian left, the conference will endorse an escalation of the intifada, even as it reaffirms PLO commitment to a two-state solution, Palestinian sources say.

Meanwhile, the PLO will step up its determination to gain the backing of Arab states, especially the oil-rich Gulf states which have the financial resources to support Palestinian education, health care, and welfare services.

Art Buchwald**No space on wall for Van Gogh**

THIS summer it's very possible that you will run into people who'll ask, "Why didn't you buy Van Gogh's Dr Gachet for \$82.5 million or Renoir's Moulin de la Galette for \$78.1 million?"

You needn't be embarrassed by the question. Just use one of these replies:

"We don't have the wall space for the Van Gogh because our children wouldn't let us take down their Mother's Day drawings."

"I intended to bid, but the Japanese had their heart set on the pictures, and they have so little of anything it is."

"Renoir's colours didn't go with our drapes."

"Do you know what it costs to frame an Impressionist painting these days?"

"We would have bought the Moulin de la Galette but it wouldn't fit into our Volkswagen."

"I have a friend, Bill Morris, who told me that I didn't have to go to the auction as he would take me to Van Gogh's studio to meet him personally."

"My wife might have been persuaded to buy the Renoir, but she can't stand Mrs Renoir."

"I'd rather have new patio furniture than an old

French painting that has hung on God knows how many people's walls."

"I started to collect Van Gogh's the day he cut off his ear."

"We don't have \$82.5 million for a picture, but if we did, we'd buy a Mapleton photo instead."

"Renoir's Moulin de la Galette isn't a bad painting, but unfortunately it has too many people in it for our taste."

"Years ago we had a choice of either collecting Rembrandts or baseball cards. Thank God, we chose the baseball cards."

"Lucy Scott asked me not to bid on the Renoir so that she could have it. Then she stopped raising her hand when it reached \$330."

"We'll probably buy both works this summer when the Japanese businessman, Ryoei Saito, has his annual garage sale."

"My wife was about to purchase the Dr Gachet when I pointed out to her that we would then be stuck with two Van Goghs in the rec room."

"Customers"

"Because we are favoured customers, we have

reserved seats at Sotheby's for any softball game on their schedule."

"I hate the role money is playing in the art game. The balcony days of paying a lousy \$5 million for a White Rock calendar are over."

"I would have bought Renoir's Moulin de la Galette, but the artist refused to retouch it to make it more American."

"The reason we don't buy anything is because the auctioneer at Christie's never looks our way when we're bidding."

"My wife may have talent but Van Gogh is no friend of the farmer."

"Someday the Japanese are going to come back to New York on their hands and knees and beg us to buy back their paintings."

"Picasso makes me smile, but Norman Rockwell makes me think."

"Ralph went to the auction with me but lost interest when he found out that Van Gogh never painted any landscapes of the Augusta National Golf Course."

"Picasso makes me smile, but Norman Rockwell makes me think."

"I'm very happy to be in the semifinals of my first Grand Slam. This is my biggest accomplishment, and it's a great thing for me to do. I'm very happy and I'll keep going." — Jennifer Capriati after beating Mary Joe Fernandes.

ARAB TIMES, SATURDAY, JUNE 3, 1990

Coping with democracy difficult for ex-dissidents

PRAGUE, (UPI): Two of Eastern Europe's most famous former dissidents — Czechoslovakia's Vaclav Havel and Poland's Lech Walesa — are having serious problems adjusting to the democracies they helped create.

In Poland, Walesa has caused an uproar by firing a chief aide and then demanding the resignation of top Solidarity theorist Adam Michnik as editor-in-chief of the Solidarity newspaper for daring to suggest his boss is a despot.

In Czechoslovakia, Havel is drawing fire for enjoying the trappings of presidential power too much while waiving on the serious economic problems that plague the country.

Walesa's case may be a modern adaption of the old adage that if power corrupts, absolute power corrupts absolutely.

In Czechoslovakia, Havel is drawing fire for enjoying the trappings of presidential power too much while waiving on the serious economic problems that plague the country.

Eyeing Havel's apparent success across the border and flanked by poor advisers — the best ones during Solidarity's underground period — Walesa launched a disastrous bid for the state presidency.

The former electrician's popularity stems from his strength as a voice of the workers, and no one ever has thought of him as a diplomat.

His popularity plummeted as he made rash promises about how he would treat parliament in Belvedere Palace. At the same time, the popularity of Solidarity Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki rose.

Next, Walesa fired a few shots across the prime minister's bow, accusing his government of not acting quickly enough on economic reforms.

When the Solidarity caucus in Parliament didn't go along with that, Walesa last weekend fired one of his chief aides, Henryk Wieniawa, who has ties with the caucus.

Reprimand

That brought a reprimand from the Solidarity newspaper, Gazeta Wyborcza, which accused him of acting like an "absolute monarch."

Now he's demanding Michnik's resignation.

"How does it look when I appoint Michnik and he turns (the paper) into a private company," Walesa said in justifying his action.

"It's outrageous," said one intellectual who normally supports Walesa. "This time he was really gone too far."

During the martial law period and afterward, when Solidarity still was illegal, Walesa was limited to using the means he had available to get things done.

In many cases, that meant the force of his legendary powers of persuasion. At other times, it simply meant what Walesa says goes: "nobody during those critical times had the power or inclination to challenge him."

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Strike ruled out

Flights delay

By M.C. Bose
Business Editor

THE in-coming Friday Air-India flight from Bombay to Kuwaiti Arab Times. Air-India sources in Kuwait told the officials in Kuwait that technical reasons were the cause for delay. The delay has also affected direct flight between Kuwait and Trivandrum. The flight which was scheduled to depart Kuwait at 7.45 Friday morning was also delayed by 24 hours.

Similarly the evening flight which was to depart at 10.45 from Kuwait has been delayed by 24 hours. Many passengers who reserved for the Kuwait-Trivandrum flight telephoned the Arab Times and said "the delay caused a lot of inconvenience to the passengers particularly the families with children."

They said some of the passengers were offered alternate accommodation at the airport. A few of the passengers returned home and likely to travel this morning. Air-India officials informed the passengers on telephone about the revised flight schedule.

Rumours have been circulating in Kuwait that pilots have declared a strike, but an Air-India official here has ruled out the rumour.

Private sector role vital

Kuwait revives economy

KUWAIT, June 8. (Kuna): Finance Minister Jasem Mohammed Al Khorafi today affirmed the government's keenness toward involving the private sector in reviving the national economy.

In an interview with Kuna, Al Khorafi welcomed initiatives by companies and individuals in providing services to the public in place of official institutions and said that the state is prepared to make way for the private sector to develop the current services and originate new ones.

He also praised the experience of some companies which began to provide public services for reasonable prices. Such services include selling fee stamps through banks and cleaning public facilities such as hospitals.

The finance minister said that the government aims at spreading a spirit of competition among private firms and not to monopolise public services, unless such a step targets public interest.

He noted that companies providing the same services must co-operate among themselves by complementing each other's activities, giving the example of the Mobile Telephone Systems Company (MTSC), which he said can provide and supervise the service and leave the selling and maintenance of telephones to more than one company.

He added, however, that some activities can only absorb one company, such as the Touristic Enterprises Company (TEC), but noted that the TEC can co-operate with other privately-owned firms in running the company's facilities, hence sparing it some financial and administrative burdens.

WORLD STOCK ROUNDUP

TOKYO, June 8. (Reuters): Volume tapered off after early volatility on settlement-buying following Thursday's expiry of the Nikkei index futures. The Nikkei average lost 1.99.21 to close at 13,293.29.

SYDNEY: The market ended weaker but off its lows after arbitragers took advantage of the trader comment.

Bombay shares

Bombay Stock Exchange prices (Rs)			
	Pr. Close	Open	Close
June 1, '90.			
ACC	491	484.50	484
Aeon Chem	—	—	—
Alv Nis	—	—	—
Ali Fah	—	—	—
Ashok Ley	82	80	81
Asia Paint	340	338.75	340
Atlas Cop	36	35.50	36
Auto Corp	65	62	63
Nat Indus	426.93	426.93	426.93
Bajaj Auto	461.23	460	463.75
Bank Baroda	887.50	887.50	887.50
Blow Print	—	—	—
Bom Dye	217	216	223
BK Bond	110	113	114.50
Burr Wel	70	65	70
Canshare	—	—	—
Cen Enka	3775	3750	3775
Cen Spg	35.50	35.50	34.50
Colgate	250	220	220
Com Gr	1100	1080	1100
DCM	26.50	25	26.50
Deep Fert	30.50	30.50	31
Dunlop	60	60	59
EI Hotels	58	58	59
Escorts	94.70	94	94.25
BSE Index	754.18	754.18	754.18
Eskayef	142.50	143.75	142.50
Essar Spg	32.50	32.50	35.50
Food Sptl	117.50	117.50	117.50
Frost	52	52	52
Car Poly	31	30.50	30.50
GL India	99	99	99.50
GNFC	39.25	39.25	39
Grisas	127.75	127	122
GE Shpg	45.75	45.50	45
GSFC	202.50	200	201
Guj Atk	87.35	85.50	85.50
Guar Levy	16	15.50	16
Herc Honda	33.50	33.50	33.50
Hind Ciba	1395	1410	1400
Hind Lever	119	118.75	119.50
Hind Cooza	147	145	146
Hind Motor	32.50	33.25	32.75
Hundalco	280	276.50	276.50
Hoechst	20.20	20.20	19.90
Ingersoll	220	215	220

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Plans approved to boost share trading

Bahrain stock market opens door to investors

BAHRAIN, June 8. (Reuter): Bahrain's fledgling stock market is poised to take off after a series of pioneering steps allowing foreign investors into the Gulf for the first time.

Stock exchange head Fawzi Behzad told bankers this week the government had approved wide-ranging plans to boost share trading on the year-old bourse.

This included asking international firms to list their shares and allowing foreigners to trade in stock of local companies through mutual funds and trusts to be set up soon.

"Bahrain has the infrastructure for an international stock exchange... we are already for this to happen," he said.

Bahrain — the Middle East's main banking centre — broke new ground this year by deciding to allow investors from outside the six-member Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) to trade shares from

Arab Banking Corporation (ABC) on the island's bourse.

GCC states Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates allow only their own nationals to trade shares locally and this is limited to 25 per cent of any firm. No foreign companies are listed elsewhere in the world.

"We hope the ABC share flotation will stimulate other interested foreign companies to tap the liquidity in the area by listing their shares on the exchange," Behzad said.

Economists said the ABC move might have little impact on Bahrain initially because deals could be concluded more quickly in Paris, where the bank will also be listed after its \$350 million public share issue closes at the end of June.

Deals on the Bahrain exchange, listing 29 companies with a total nominal capital of \$1.6 billion, are carried out

manually and settled within three days.

Behzad said business had soared nearly five-fold in the year after the exchange opened to 73 million shares worth 20.2 million dinars (\$4.3 million).

It reached 20.6 million shares worth 4.4 million dinars \$11.7 million in previous weeks.

Brokers say a decision by the government to sell its entire 42 per cent stake in a leading local firm, the Bahrain Hotels Company, brought in many new cash-rich GCC investors in May.

A total of 3.6 million shares worth 6.5 million dinars (\$17.3 million) were sold in 10 days.

More share flotations are planned. Exchange officials say the government will sell its stake in the Bahrain Aluminum Extrusion Company — which makes window and door frames from locally produced ingots — in the next two

weeks.

Behzad said the government had also approved a plan to split the shares in local companies 10 for one to make them more attractive to local investors.

Brokers say this should make Bahraini investors more willing to sell shares which have plummeted to a fraction of what they were worth during the oil boom years.

"It's a psychological boost because the shares look cheaper and people can make a profit even if there's a slight fluctuation in prices," one broker said.

Share prices in Bahrain rose in 1990 after many companies and banks reported higher 1989 profits. There is no index yet.

Behzad said Bahraini firms and banks would be allowed to trade on the exchange for the first time in a bid to encourage them to act as market-makers.

A committee was also studying the

possibility of listing Kuwaiti companies on the Bahrain exchange and vice versa.

Kuwait has a larger market and trade value is around \$10.3 million a day, compared with \$280,000 in Bahrain.

Behzad said other measures included:

— Inviting foreign securities houses to join the six local brokers who are now members of the exchange.

— Allowing government and corporate bonds to be listed on secondary market.

— Introducing margin trading which allows investors to buy securities on credit.

— Encouraging banks to settle delinquent accounts by selling shares kept as collateral on the exchange.

— Encouraging public companies to buy five per cent of their shares as treasury stock to support prices.

— Encouraging closed Bahraini companies to issue shares to the public.

Pakistan presents budget

Slight increase in defence spending

War threat cited as the reason

ISLAMABAD, June 8. (Reuter): Pakistan's defence spending ballooned by more than 18 per cent this year following tension with India over a Muslim uprising in Indian Kashmir, budget figures released yesterday showed.

Presenting the budget to the National Assembly, Finance Minister Ehsanul Haq Piracha said a rise in defence spending was inevitable under the circumstances on the border.

But opposition members were not there to listen to his speech. They walked out of the chamber after accusing him of corruption and demanding that Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto present the budget instead of him.

Western diplomats said Pakistan has been scouring the world arms markets for weapons and ammunition in recent months and asking its traditional suppliers for accelerated deliveries in case war broke out with India.

Both sides have moved forward positions along their border in recent months following an upsurge in secessionist militancy in Kashmir that India blames on Pakistan.

India, in its budget presented in February, increased spending by 27 per cent to \$9.54 billion, citing the row with Pakistan as the reason.

However, Pakistan's armed forces stand to only get a further 2.2 per cent rise to \$3.27 billion rupees (\$2.88 billion) in 1990/91 — less than half the current inflation rate of 5.7 per cent.

Piracha told parliament that total spending is set to rise 7.2 per cent to 230.19 billion rupees (\$10.46 billion), development expenditure rising by 14.5 per cent and current expenditure by 5.4 per cent.

The case, which does not involve criminal charges, has been appealed to the Supreme Court.

Benazir has denied the allegations, but critics say she is either out of touch with what is going on or is unable to control it.

The allegations have never been proved and Benazir has challenged opponents to present any evidence before the courts.

Last month, the Lahore High Court overruled a decision announced a year earlier by Piracha to set up the Islamabad Stock Exchange.

The court ruled the decision was illegal because he had named a company in which he had an interest to run the operation and called it "a clear act of favouritism and nepotism."

The case, which does not involve criminal charges, has been appealed to the Supreme Court.

Sheikh Salem said among key implemented recommendations was one allowing more businessmen to visit Kuwait.

He cited Interior Ministry officials as saying the number of entry visas granted to businessmen in the period January/April this year was 70 per cent higher than it was over the same period last year.

Other implemented recommendations included introduction of regulations governing real-estate ownership, and urging vertical urban expansion to cut housing prices and allow room for more housing units.

Unloading fares at the Shuaibah Port were reduced last April and steps were taken to curtail competition between the private and public sectors in the services and financing sectors, under two recommendations, he said.

In the securities sector, the executed recommendations included: — instructing shareholding companies to publicise their figures twice a year and distribute dividends in the middle of the fiscal year.

Broadening the stock market base by accelerating registration of Kuwaiti and non-Kuwaiti firms in the securities market.

— Encouraging initiatives of the private sector for converting successful projects into public shareholding companies that can be listed on the stock market.

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World Bank loan to Dhaka

WASHINGTON, June 8. (UPI): The World Bank Thursday announced a \$175 million loan to help Bangladesh reform its financial sector to enable banks to operate more efficiently and to improve allocation of financial resources in the economy.

The \$175 million loan will be provided by the International Development Association, the World's affiliate that provides concessionary terms credit to the poorest countries.

The multilateral organisation said that Bangladesh's reforms will strengthen the financial sector through changes in interest rate and monetary policies, improvements in the way banks provide loans to investors, and an increase in the central bank's capacity for supervising and regulating banks.

The IDA credit is for 40 years, including 10 years of grace, and carries no interest.

The World Bank Thursday announced a \$250 million loan to help Poland increase production of natural gas and promote energy conservation.

The \$250 million loan will finance development and rehabilitation of existing gas fields, evaluation of recently discovered fields, expansion of transmission and storage facilities, and adoption of new gas processing and desulfurization technologies.

The European Investment Bank is providing \$60 million in co-financing for the project, the World Bank said.

The World Bank also announced a \$190 million loan to help Indonesia expand water and sewerage services in Jakarta and surrounding urban areas.

The project includes the construction of 3,000 public hydrants in poor neighbourhoods, improvements in the waste-water disposal and drainage systems, and strengthening of the area's water supply and sewerage institutions.

The multilateral organisation noted that since 1960 the population of greater Jakarta has more than doubled to about 15 million and is expected to increase to more than 26 million by the year 2005.

The World Bank today announced a \$50 million loan to Papua New Guinea.

Capital spending to increase

WASHINGTON, June 8. (UPI): America's business plan to increase capital spending by 5.5 per cent in 1990, a slower pace than previously estimated and the lowest level in three years, the Commerce Department said yesterday.

The slowdown reflects the sluggish national economy.

The 5.5 per cent projection for spending on plants and equipment — not counting inflation — is lower than the department's Census Bureau initial April estimate of 7.6 per cent, which was revised up to 7.9 per cent.

It is also the worst showing since a gain of about 4.2 per cent in 1987, a Commerce Department spokesman said.

The government attributed the decline to higher inflation. Private economists had expected the capital spending figure to remain at its earlier level.

"Real spending increased 1.8 per cent in the first quarter of 1990, following a 0.6 per cent increase in the fourth quarter of 1989," the Commerce Department said in its quarterly report.

"It is expected to increase 1.1 per cent in the second quarter of 1990, to increase 0.7 per cent in the third quarter, and to decrease 0.4 per cent in the fourth quarter," the department said.

West German economy still roaring ahead

BONN, June 8. (Reuters): West Germany's economy, in the eighth year of a boom, is still roaring ahead, giving no hint of weakening despite impending German economic union.

Data released by the Federal Statistics Office in Wiesbaden on Wednesday showed West Germany should achieve an annual growth rate of four per cent this year, matching that of 1989.

The economics ministry said West German real gross national product (GNP) grew at 4.4 per cent a year in the first quarter of 1990, up from 2.5 per cent in the last quarter of 1989.

"It was a super figure, showing how dynamic the West German economy is expanding," Ulrich Beckmann at Deutsche Bank AG.

Many economists had expected 3.5 to

UK stock market learns respect for the future

LONDON, June 8. (Reuters): British share dealers have learnt a telling lesson — respect for the future.

Shares have rocketed to London over the past month and the Financial Times Stock Exchange futures contract has often triggered the move ahead.

The FTSE futures contract is based on the FTSE-100 index which charts the prices of 100 leading stocks and is a vehicle for speculating on where the FTSE will stand at a future date.

How the futures contract opens can send tremors through the FTSE 100 stocks because assessments of their future worth will trigger buying or selling of the shares themselves.

Stock market dealers still say the future moving the market is like a tail wagging a dog, but dealers in FTSE futures prefer to think of themselves as leading the dog.

"Volume in the FTSE futures market has been growing sharply and will continue to explode," says Fiona Morrison, a stock index futures broker at GNI Ltd.

As well as being an effective way of hedging against risk, futures trading is quick and cheap, dealers say.

The volume of FTSE contracts has hit 17,000 a day in recent hectic sessions compared with an average daily volume of 5,500 over the last six months

to a year.

GNI's Morrison says daily FTSE futures' volume could jump to between 20,000 and 25,000 by the year-end, as tax changes on trading in stock-market related products take effect.

On Tuesday Liffe, the London International Financial Futures Exchange, said FTSE 100 futures contract volume hit a record 138,003 contracts in May, up 51 per cent since April and 12 per cent above the previous record 122,970 traded in October 1989.

One quiet May morning saw dealers putting prices on screens around 0700 to 0730 GMT, when the June FTSE future opened at a 60 point premium to the actual stock market index against

normal 20 to 25 gap — opening the chance for arbitrageurs whose job it is to exploit differences between one market and another.

Panic broke out.

Market makers — short of stock themselves — bought up the stock market, driving prices higher toward those on futures.

The futures market is a means of hedging against risk and dealing in futures is a judgement on the direction in which the FTSE 100 index, referred to in the markets as the cash index, is headed.

A June FTSE futures contract bought at 2,300 points which rises to

2,400 by the expiration date is worth £25 (\$42) per a point to an investor, a profit of £2,500 (\$42,000) in total.

Losses accrue at the same rate.

The value of FTSE contract mirrors the cash FTSE index. On a FTSE of 2,400, the June future would be valued at around £60,000 (\$100,000) says Brendan Bradley, senior options analyst at Liffe.

One attraction is the small amount of money one has to lodge to buy a contract just £2,500 (\$4,200).

"The low margin means many people find FTSE futures more attractive than shares," says Raoul Goldsmith, equity analyst at James Capel.

"A lot of institutions who hadn't

used it for this purpose before are starting to," says Liffe's Phillips.

An institution with a balanced portfolio of stocks which turns bonds on the market can simply sell FTSE futures but keep its chosen stocks.

Institutions are also using the FTSE future when they change stance on the equity market. Buying the future is more lucrative and unlikely to sit as well as a rally as their appearance in the equity market. They can then buy stocks afterwards.

British futures dealing is small compared with the US Chicago Futures Exchanges, where average daily stock index value of trading surpasses that of the New York Stock Exchange.

Fresh bid to lure back funds invested abroad

Oman market booms but shares scarce

DUBAI, June 8. (Reuters): Oman's securities market exceeded all turnover targets in its first year but still has a long way to go to attract shareholders willing to sell their stocks, financial analysts say.

Shares valued at 16.27 million Omani riyals (\$42.3 million) have been traded since the exchange opened on May 20 last year until the end of May 1990, said Hashem Ali Sabagh, an adviser who set up the Muscat securities market.

The turnover target for the first year was set at six million riyals (\$15.6 million).

"This can be described as a boom and interest in the market is growing day by day," he told Reuters in a telephone interview from Muscat.

But bankers and financial analysts in Oman said market activity was thin because of the reluctance of most controlling

owners in major companies to putting their shares up for sale.

The exchange was set up to attract local savings into the economy and lure back funds invested abroad.

Bankers say there is a growing demand even from small investors to buy stocks but that supply is limited.

Some companies are so profitable that, apart from fears of losing control of their firms, current share-owners prefer to keep their holdings rather than trade them.

Sabagh said the price/earnings ratio of some firms — market price of stock as a multiple of per share earnings — are as high as six to one.

"The (big) shareholders have some price ideas in their minds and they want to realise these," a leading stockbroker said.

Seventy-four Oman compa-

nies are listed at the exchange with a total capitalisation of around 600 million Omani riyals (\$15.5 billion), said Sabagh.

He said the exchange would not start an index before trading in major stocks became regular each day.

"When we have 15 companies traded regularly every day we can issue an index," said Sabagh. "Now we have three or four."

However, one of the six brokerage houses allowed to deal on the floor of the exchange has been testing an index and plans to announce it on a regular basis soon, financial sources said.

The most actively traded stocks are in banks, insurance companies and some agro-industries, brokers said.

Although the number of small transactions is growing, the market sometimes witnesses one single big stock movement

involving several hundred thousand shares, one broker said.

But shares of some companies listed at the exchange have never been traded, one analyst pointed out.

"This is not a healthy situation. The aim of the market is to have the shares of all companies purchased and sold by a large number of people," he added.

But brokers and exchange officials are confident about the future as daily trading volume is said to be growing. To stimulate trading interest, the market has been holding evening sessions twice a week since last October.

Sabagh said daily trading involved shares valued at 15,000 to 20,000 Omani riyals (\$39,000 to \$52,000) last year when the exchange opened. It now sometimes saw shares change hands in one day of over 100,000 riyals (\$260,000).

World Bank to finance projects in Iran

No plan to devalue rial

NICOSIA, June 8. (Reuters): Iraq had no plans to devalue the rial, which has lost 95 per cent of its official value since 1979, the country's finance minister said yesterday.

Mohsen Nourbakhsh also told a Tehran news conference that World Bank officials had shown interest in financing development projects in Iran.

"There is no need for such a change (in rial's value) as it would not help the economy at the present juncture," the Iranian news agency IRNA quoted Nourbakhsh as saying.

Critics blame the artificially high value of about 70 rials per dollar, maintained since the 1979 Islamic Revolution, for hurting domestic production and distortion prices.

The dollar fetches more than 1,400 rials on the open market.

In April, the head of the parliament's plan and

budget commission, Morteza Alviri, said Iran would unveil a plan within a few months to prepare grounds for devaluing the rial to between 700 and 800 per dollar.

Nourbakhsh said Iran's foreign debt, all related to pre-1979 loans, totalled between \$200 and 300 million.

The debt, negligible compared with the huge amounts owed by many other Third World countries, would be repaid regularly as payments became due, he said.

Iran's economic development plan adopted in January authorised the government to use \$27.6 billion of foreign credit over the next five years, much of it through financing of infrastructural projects.

Nourbakhsh said the types of credit facilities offered by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) were not suitable to Iran's needs.

Tokyo shares

Nikkei stock average: 32993.29 (-19.21)	
Volume: 700 mil sic.	
Yen exchange rate: 152.65	
Hitachi Koki	2360 -20
Hitachi Ltd.	1450 0
Hanwa Metal	1520 -40
Honda Motor	1770 -40
HoYokohama Co.	4160 -10
Kajima Corp.	1070 -10
Kanazawa H.I	957 -28
Kobe Cast Iron	1850 -40
Kokusai Elec.	4920 -30
Komatsu Ltd.	1210 0
Kyocera Corp.	7990 -10
Maru	3130 -10
Matsushita Ind	3640 -60
Mitsubishi Corp.	2290 -40
Mitsubishi Heavy Ind.	950 -40
Mitsubishi Motor	1560 -10
Mitsubishi Estate	1660 -20
Mitsubishi H.I	1060 -30
Mitsui R.E.	1950 -50
Mizuno Corp.	1770 10
Mochida Ph.	3800 50
Mon Schi Co.	4220 +70
NEC Corp.	1620 20
Nippon Adm.	1620 20
Nippon Shin Co.	1180 0
Nippon Steel Corp.	600 12
Nippon Soda Co.	2260 -40
Nitoku Corp.	1580 -20
Nomura Sec.	2420 10
Okuma Mach.	1740 0
Orimac K.C.	2020 -10
Panasonic Co.	2110 -40
Renesas Look Inc.	2060 -40
Sanyo Elec Co.	970 10
Seicom Co. Ltd.	5300 -30
Hitachi Credit	1700 0

The British Council Students — are you going to Britain this autumn?

If you have been offered a place for full-time study (or already hold a place) in a British University, Polytechnic or college then you are invited to a special Reception Party! We at The British Council would like to see you and wish you luck — as well as provide you with some useful information on how to live in Britain once you are there.

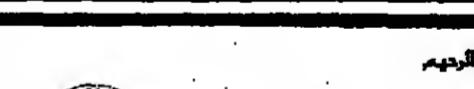
The date : Wednesday 27th June

The Time : 6:00 pm

The place : The British Council, 2, Al Arabi St., Mansouriyah

Please telephone or drop by to collect your free ticket.

Contact Mrs. Kate Harries or Mrs. Liz Lockey on 252 0067/8/9.



CENTRAL BANK OF KUWAIT

ANNOUNCEMENT

For Subscription in Issue No. (124) for Treasury Bills
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TRAVEL & TOURISM

AN ARAB TIMES SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT



Travellers crowd London's Heathrow Airport.

TWENTY-five million Americans are afraid to fly—one in six of the adult population. Some are not only fearful, but phobic. One difference between a fear and a phobia is in the intensity; a phobia is a disproportionate fear, an exaggerated or irrational feeling, beyond mere anxiety or discomfort. Phobic air travellers see themselves losing control, suffocating, panicking, falling, crashing or (at the very least) making a fool of themselves.

For both the phobic flier and the merely fearful there are three ways of confronting the ghost. The first is education, or enlightenment. The second is relaxation; and thirdly, there are some techniques and tips that can work well for everyone.

Education

"Nothing is to be feared. It is only to be understood." Understand, then, that every year throughout the world more than 11,000 aircraft carry nearly 1,000 million people from 1,000 airports without incident or accident. According to Lloyd's of London it is 25 times safer to travel by air than by car.

Relaxation

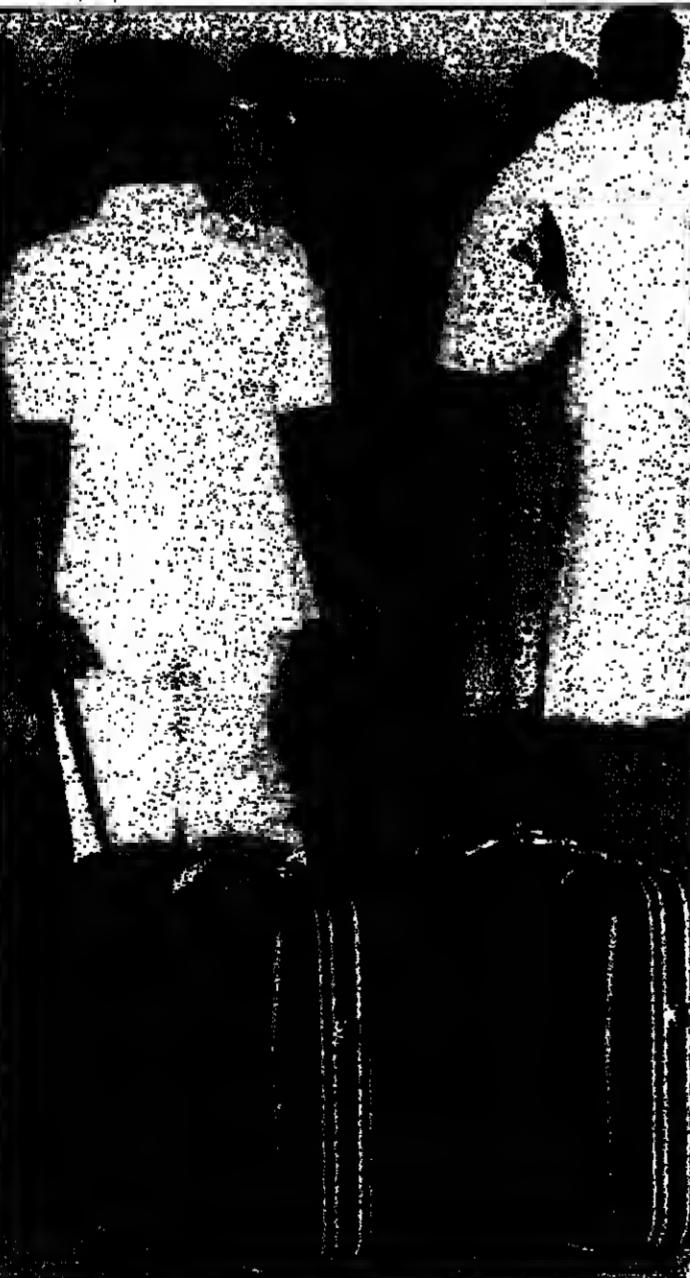
A completely relaxed passenger cannot be fearful. Fear and relaxation are opposite states. Tension and fear adversely affect every muscle, organ, gland, nerve and cell in the body. Relaxation shifts the body motor to idle and all the components throttle back. Learning a simple breathing relaxation procedure helps to curb overwhelming anxiety. It also enables fearful travellers to prepare for comfortable flights.

At home, find a quiet place and settle into a comfortable chair with an arm and head rest. People who are frightened of flying try not to put their full weight down, but for the purposes of this exercise it is essential to do this, with feet uncrossed flat on the floor or supported on some kind of stool. Wriggle as far back into the seat as possible. Make sure jaw muscles are loose, teeth are not touching and lips are slightly parted. Nudge intruding thoughts aside.

Begin the first of three deep breaths by inhaling through the nose, mouth, or both. Inhale fully and hold that inhalation while silently counting to three. Then exhale completely, saying aloud, "Relax, let go." Breathe normally for a few moments and luxuriate in a refreshing feeling of passivity. Take the second deep breath, repeating the same procedure, but inhaling and exhaling more fully. Relax and let go even more. Then breathe normally.

On the third and final inhalation-exhalation, consider increasing the volume of air by

Flying jitters



Overcome them

consciously extending the diaphragm. On exhaling, contract the diaphragm muscles so that more air is expelled. Exhale tension, stress and fear. Let go.

Practise the exercise several times before going on to desensitize past feelings about flying. If muscular tension persists, try counting from ten to one and slow letting go of that tension. Think of a pleasant, peaceful place and fantasize being there, unworried and unafraid.

Once past fears have been confronted, conditioning and programming for a future flight can begin. Go to a deep level of relaxation with the breathing exercise and select some city or area that has a strong appeal for you. Maybe there is someone you would particularly like to visit there. Recall all previous happy, warm thoughts about being there and imagine enjoying the place and the people.

The next conditioning step is to envisage boarding the plane to make the trip and experiencing a mixture of excitement and fear; it will be difficult to differentiate between them. Choose excitement! Remember it is quite normal to be nervous.

Imagine that someone dear to you, who knows you well, is on board. The seat belt sign comes on and the flight becomes slightly choppy. Pretend that the plane is travelling over a cobbled road in the sky. Any feeling of being distraught or overly disturbed, experienced on past flights, will be reduced. It is quite normal to feel uncomfortable, but not unsafe.

Tips

Visit airports. Observe the different makes of aircraft. Park on the perimeter and watch the planes take off and land. Find out what kind you will be travelling on and learn to recognize it. All are safe.

Some people prefer morning flights so they can get up and go without spending the whole day uneasily. Allow a minimum of one hour for parking, buying a ticket or checking in, and security screening. Rushing exaggerates anxiety. Buy a magazine as a distraction.

On stepping aboard, tell the flight attendant that you are fearful, uncomfortable or terrified of flying and that you would like to take a peek into the flight deck. Generally, anyone who makes this request is welcomed by a relaxed crew.

After settling into the seat, do the deep breathing exercises. This singular procedure has worked effectively even for the most sceptical. Do it with your eyes closed. Turn inward for the strength that is waiting to be tapped. Some vestige of anxiety and fear is bound to remain but the important thing is that the previously fearful flier will find that his or her perception of flying has been updated.

In the air, listen for the sound of the landing-gears retracting; then the no-smoking sign will be turned off, the engine power will decrease, and the flaps will be retracted, usually in that order. As soon as possible stand up and stretch. Move about the cabin. Experience the triumph: you have conquered the fear of flying.

Austria – an oasis of calm in the heart of Europe, where cooling waters mirror snow-capped

peaks. Whatever your European destination, go via Vienna. Relax with Austrian and you have arrived. For more information please contact Austrian Airlines, Kuwait, Tel. 241 35 32/241 35 48.

from KUWAIT

Departure

TUESDAY/THURSDAY 1100

EXTRA FLIGHTS on

JULY 9/13/23/30

Globe-trotting

Sunny smiles in cold country

TRAVEL, as a past-time or a necessity, is no longer what it used to be. Not that I am nostalgic for the good old days. In fact the phrase does not exist in my vocabulary. The problem is that in a fast-changing world it is getting increasingly difficult to give travel tips to your friends.

A colleague who visited the USSR a few years ago thought she was being helpful when she told me not to expect waiters in Moscow to be smiling and eager to please a customer. I may have been misled. With glasnost, and even the faltering perestroika, I am told some waiters are all smiles, and the owner of that famous private eating-house in the capital that serves Russian delicacies but does not accept Russian roubles is singing all the way to the bank.

They used to say if you go to France don't speak English. For years I have struggled with my poor French and admittedly came to no grief. But with a united Europe coming into view not only are the British frantically studying French but also, I am told, the French might stop pretending that they don't speak English.

I've just been getting ready to offer a valuable piece of advice to some friends who are planning to visit Yugoslavia this summer. I was going to tell them to take with them two (empty) potato or rice-sacks. Last year, this was an indispensable piece of luggage for all visitors. The sacks were used to carry wads of (then worthless) Yugoslav dinar notes they exchanged at the bank to pay their hotel bills. But Yugoslav premier Ante Markovic preempted my move. He has denominated the Yugoslav dinar and made it convertible, killing the inflation and

you have not learnt — the lambada — the latest in Latin American rhythms. To help you master the step get yourself a dental-floss bikini.

One word about the weather. Don't go to Wimbledon in a raincoat or you might have a sunstroke if last year's British tennis season is anything to go by. Don't go to Kenya in April in shorts and T-shirt, loaded with suntan lotion. You may get a cool welcome at the Nairobi airport, 2,000 metres above the sea level, where the mercury is struggling to reach 10°C.

Don't go to Copacabana in Rio this or any other summer, and certainly not in your dental-floss bikini lest you catch pneumonia. Remember it's winter there now. The only reasonably warm place in that part of the world would be the Santos beach off São Paulo. And no matter what time of the year it is always take an overcoat to Moscow.

A centuries-old phenomenon called "Delhi belly" has definitely not become history but might go down in history as a single affliction that few foreign visitors to the Indian capital can escape. For your information no cure has been found yet.

A timeless piece of advice for the visitor to the Far East. If you want to know how to use chopsticks don't order a noodle dish, as I did in Hong Kong, subsequently much to my embarrassment. Also, if you are really hungry politely decline the offer of ivory or silver chop sticks. Settle instead for a pair of wooden sticks and you might make some progress.

An up-to-date tip for travellers to South America. Don't go to Brazil if

some Europeans and Americans grow at home in pots, don't pluck them for this is their natural habitat. Just take a deep breath and enjoy.

If you are in Colombo, Sri Lanka, don't hesitate to smile at the people in the street, for it is virtually rude not to. Try and smile at people in a street in one of the Gulf states and you will be surprised how far a smile can take you — in an unwanted direction.

Don't be offended if a child in a Japanese village peers at you curiously and asks its mother: "What's wrong with that woman's nose?"

Don't believe the men who tell you that they will visit Bangkok to see the temples. If you are a foreign woman in Bangkok's Pet Pong street and a stranger offers you a monkey, be sure he did not mean you should take it as a house-pet.

Many countries stricken by crime or some other disaster are trying to turn the misfortune to their advantage, and foreign tourists are helping them. For example the Peking-based Gung-Ho travel agency is organising special tours of the Tiananmen Square after foreign tourists clamoured to see the bloodstains on the sidewalks follow-

If in India, beware as no cure has been found for "Delhi belly" yet! And going to Latin America, step into a dental-floss bikini and master the lambada.

ing last year's massacre in which the People's Army crushed the pro-democracy movement.

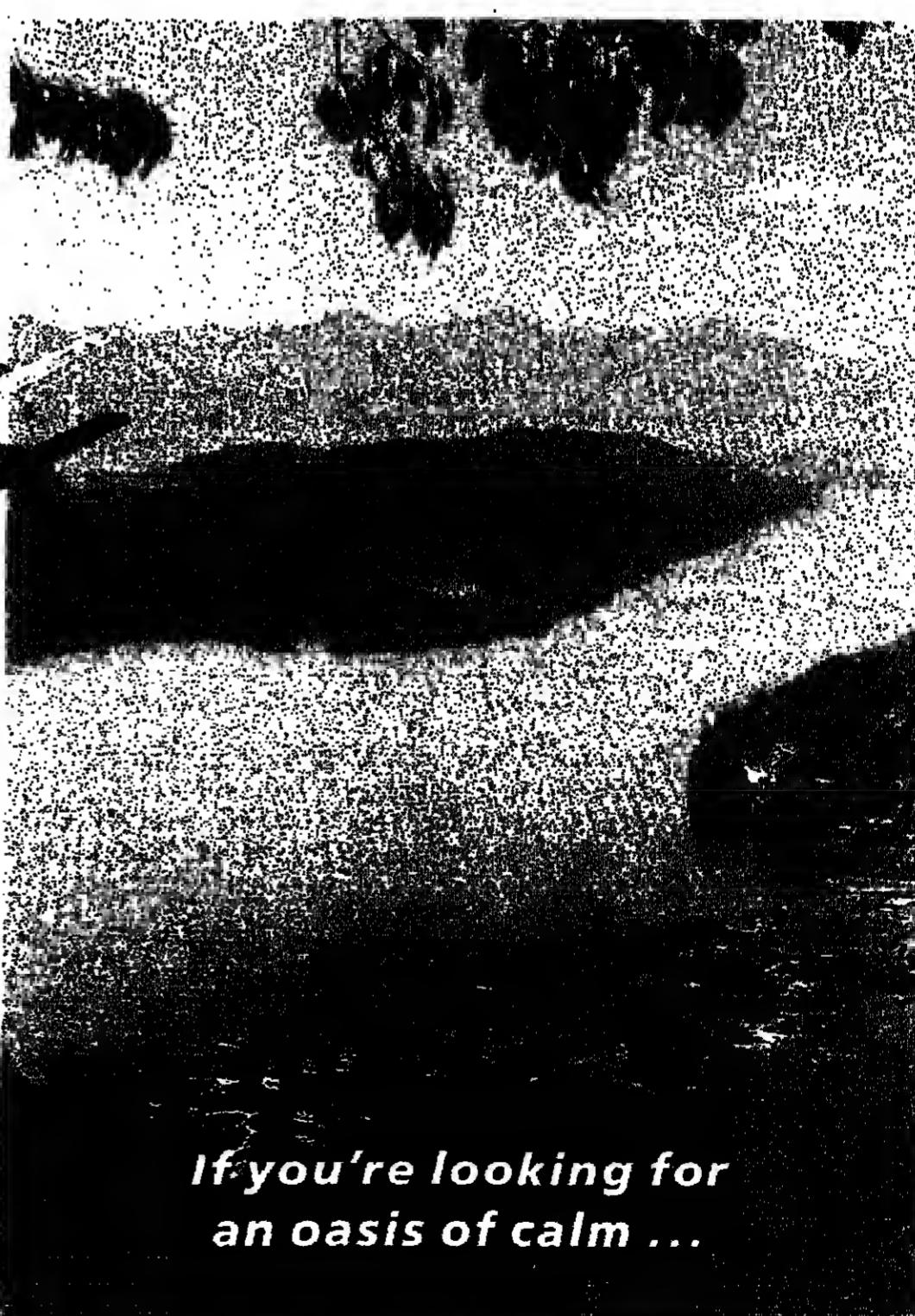
In Bombay, the Mumbai Tours is having a special offer for a Bombay-Pune first-hand experience of what the monsoon rains can do to a road. Expect a bumpy ride. One-day trips to the Amazon rain forests to watch their destruction are on offer in Brazil.

Colombian drug barons, eager to improve their image and always an enterprising lot, have linked up with Coco Tours agency to organise package tours of their vast estates. The highlight of the tour is a visit to the Medellin home of Fábio Ochoa Restrepo, 65, whose claim to fame is that he produced three drug lords, a book on horses and a letter to the Pope. If he takes a liking to you he might present you with an autographed copy of his book. These are new trends in Third World countries which may be imitating the United States. Although they are not widely publicised, guided tours of Harlem, New York's crime-ridden, can be arranged. I was on one a few years ago, in fact I spent a whole day in Harlem, and nobody harmed a hair of my head.

Speaking of crime is another timeless piece of advice valid in Colombo, New York, Rio de Janeiro, London, Paris, Nairobi and virtually any other city in the world.

If you are assaulted by thieves do not try any histrionics, just hand over whatever they ask for and hope for the best. For although the world is changing this particular feature of human behaviour, robbery and assault, is universal and is not likely to be eradicated any time soon.

Bon Voyage and enjoy your holiday!



If you're looking for
an oasis of calm ...

Welcome To

Discover



Switzerland



Basel

COSMOPOLITAN by tradition, Basel is situated at the meeting point of many cultures. Over the centuries, the way of life of the city has been shaped by the Celts and the Romans, the Alemannians, the Humanists and the Huguenots. Basel, with the oldest university — and a famous one at that — has become a centre of trade and banking, as well as of the chemical industry. The prestige of this city, both past and present, is reflected in the architectural splendour of the well-preserved old town, in the magnificent collections housed in the many museums and in a rich and varied cultural life. The Swiss Industries Fair and the European World Trade and Convention Centre, etc., make Basel the country's foremost fair venue hosting an ever-increasing number of congresses, exhibitions and conventions.

How to get there
Daily flights to Basel-Mulhouse airport (10 minutes from the city centre), from/to various international destinations as well as from Zurich and Geneva.
By rail:
Served by the French, West German and Swiss railways.
By road:
Major intersection of the French, West German and Swiss road networks.
By boat:
Basel is the port of destination for international Rhine shipping.

Leisure activities — sightseeing

Guided tours of the world famous Museum of Fine Arts (Kunstmuseum) and of 30 other museums. A modern zoo. A charming old town dating back to the Middle Ages. Theatres; a rich musical life; night clubs.



Grindelwald

How to get there

By air:
Zurich airport 170 km., Geneva 247 km.
By rail:
By international express train to Interlaken and then with the Bernese-Oberland Railway to Grindelwald (40 minutes).
By road:
Highway to Spiez, and then on good roads to Grindelwald (Bern 78 km, Zurich 155 km.).

Leisure activities — sightseeing

Summer and winter sports of every kind. Excursions to glaciers, gorges, Staubbach waterfall, Alpine gardens, mountain cheesemakers, museums and wildlife expeditions.



Lugano

A southern lakeside paradise enjoying a mild climate, with plenty of sun, even in winter. Lugano is set amidst exotic vegetation and surrounded by magnificent mountain views. A city full of light and life, criss-crossed with romantic, traffic-free lanes — in short: a congress venue with Mediterranean charm. Its churches and cathedral are of great historic interest, and there are concerts, shows, and folklore displays aplenty.

How to get there
By air:
Lugano-Agno airport (6 km from the centre), direct flights to

Paris, Nice, Venice and Luxembourg. Connecting flights to and from all destinations via Geneva, Zurich and Basel.
By rail:
Connected to the main north-south route.
By road:
Express highway from Zurich 225 km. from Basel.

Leisure activities — sightseeing

Ticinese folklore dances, shows and concerts. Excursions to the beautiful northern Italian lakes or to the delightful Ticino countryside by boat, bus and cable car.

St Gallen

A city of culture and textiles set in lush green surroundings; in the early Middle Ages St Gallen was the most important cultural centre north of the Alps. Evidence may still be seen in the world famous Abbey Library with its collection of rare manuscripts. St Gallen became the stronghold of the textile industry in the 19th century. Still today, the avant-garde factories and exquisite embroideries of designers of world renown come from St Gallen which, incidentally, is also the home of Switzerland's famous Graduate School of Economics, Business and Public Administration. Sources of pleasure for the congress visitor are the picturesque old town, the Lake of Constance not far away and the charming villages in the nearby region of Appenzell.

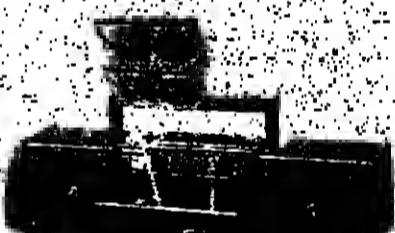
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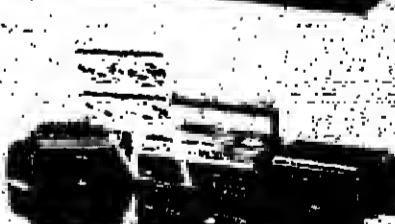
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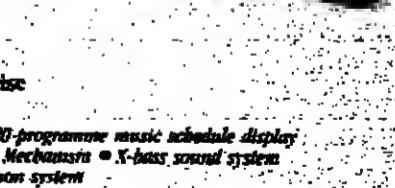
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Bangladesh

Splendid ruins, spectacular sights

Dacca: Founded in 1608 as the seat of the Imperial Mughal Viceroys of Bengal and known the world over for centuries for its fine silk and muslin, Dacca has now grown into a bustling active city of over 1.5 million people and serves as the capital of Bangladesh.

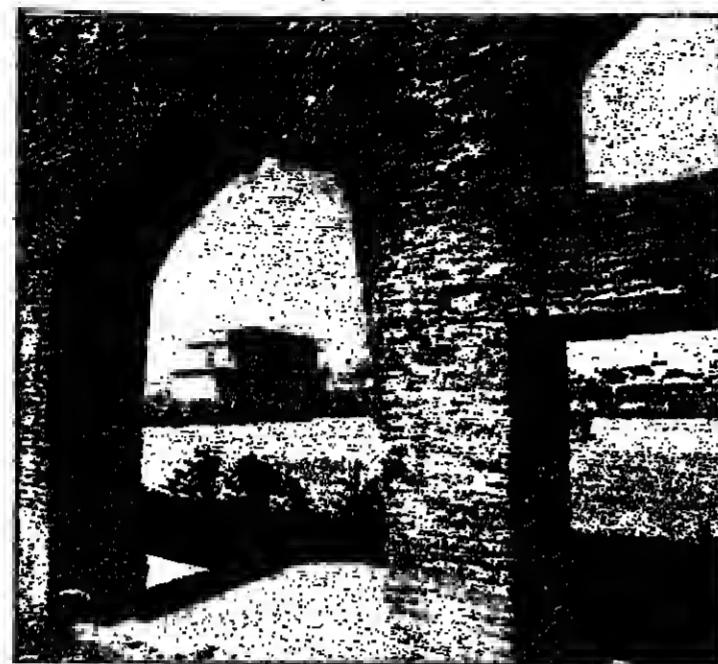
Some of its outstanding ancient monuments are Lalbagh Fort (built in 1678 A.D.), Paribibi's tomb (1678 AD), Bara Katra, Hussaini Dalan, Star Mosque, Satgambuz (seven domed) Mosque (1680 AD) and Dhakeshwari Temple. The central Shaheed Minar commemorating the martyrs of the historic language movement of 1952, the Bahadur Shah Park guarding the memorial for the heroes of the first war of independence of 1857, the Dacca Museum housing an excellent collection of archaeological finds, sculptures and paintings and the Baldha Gardens rank high among places of interest. Architectural trends, both old and new, are reflected in Curzon Hall, old High Court and new Supreme Court buildings, Gano Bhaban and Bangla Bhavan, multi-storey Parliament House under construction in Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Shaheed Shuhurawdy Hospital, Central Public Library, Baitul Mukarram Mosque designed after the Holy Ka'aba of Mecca, the Railway Station, Bangladesh Bank Building, the College of Arts and Crafts, Bangladesh Secretariat complex and Hotel Intercontinental.

The neighbourhood of Dacca also claims attention for its rich heritage. The ruins of the old seats of power at Vikrampur (7th century AD) and Sonargaon (10th century AD), only an hour's drive away, are worth visiting. A day-trip to suburban Savar (National War Memorial), the forests of Joydevpur, Chandra or Salma and the industrial estates at Narayanganj, Demra, Tongi and Tejgaon is a rewarding experience. A cruise in a country boat in one of the nearby rivers is likely to bring peace and joy to your mind. Shopping around can get you excellent bargains. And who can miss the pink pearls of Dacca.

Comilla: Linked with Dacca by air, road, rail and river, Comilla is just five miles off Mainamati and sixty miles from the capital. It lies on the main highways leading to Chittagong and Sylhet. The place is known for its exquisite pottery, handloom products and a large number of 'dighis' a local name for fish bearing tanks. The Academy for Rural Development here is known for its pioneering work in co-operative movement.

The Parjatan Corporation can organise conducted tours from Dacca to Comilla. There are number of departmental rest houses and picnic spots to attract the tourist.

Chittagong: With a picturesque hinterland of large hill-forests and lakes Chittagong, the second largest city of Bangladesh and a busy international seaport, is a good vacation spot. Its fine harbour, green hills, forests and sea-beaches and soothng sunshine attract holiday makers to swim in the blue waters of the Bay of Bengal, bask in the sun, fish in the lakes and rivers and shoot with cameras in the game-filled forests. Described by the Chinese poet-traveller Huiyan Tsang (7th Century AD) as "a sleeping beauty emerging from mist and water" and given the nick-name of Porto Grande (Grand Port) by the 16th century Portuguese seafarers. Chittagong remains true to both descriptions even today. It combines



Lal Bagh Fort, 1608, in Dhaka.

the hum of a restless seaport with the pleasure of a hill-town.

Chittagong is the most developed area in Bangladesh with many of the heavy, medium and light industries located there. These include jute, cotton, textile, automobile, fertilizer, engineering, chemical, tobacco, timber and tannery industries. The country's only steel mill and oil refinery are also located here.

Chittagong is connected with Dacca by rail road, air and water. It is also connected with Cox's Bazar Jessore and Calcutta by air.

Places of interest in and around Chittagong include the Court Building, the Ethnological Museum, Shahi Jame Mosque, Cbandanpura Mosque, the University town, Engineering and Medical colleges, Chittagong Club, Pahartali Lake, Marine Academy at Jaldia, Patenga and Fauzdarhat beaches, Sitakunda Hindu and Buddhist temples, shrines of a dozen Muslim saints including Hazrat Bayazid Bostami. The building housing the present Islamic Intermediate College was built about 300 years ago by the Portuguese to serve as their arsenal.

Cox's Bazar: Ninety-five miles from Chittagong by road and twenty minutes by air is Cox's Bazar — beach combers paradise — having the world's longest (75 miles) stretch of beach sloping gently into the blue waters of the Bay of Bengal. A chain of green hills covered by deep reserve forests, serve as a picturesque background to the beach. The range of hills runs parallel to the beach for about 60 miles. At low tide a jeep can drive on the sand for quite a distance. The wide beach is endowed with silvery-golden sand. The sea is good for bathing and swimming as it is free from sharks.

Cox's Bazar and nearby Ramu have many Pagodas and Buddhist temples. The friendly Mogh tribesmen make in their homes a local variety of cigars and colourful handloom fabrics. Their unique customs and costumes are distinctive and attract tourists. A trip by road at dawn to Teknaf, the southernmost tip of Bangladesh, is worth remembering.

Accommodation, rent-a-car, food and bar facilities are available at reasonable rates in modern rest-houses, motels and restaurants especially built for the tourists by the Bangladesh Parjatan Corporation. Local sight-seeing tours and excursion trips are also arranged by the Bangladeshi Parjatan Corporation in its microbuses.

Chalna: Chalna, now being developed as the country's

fishing, speedboat cruising, water-skiing, rowing, climbing, hiking or merely lazing in the dappled shade to watch the tribal girls. A boat trip to the various forest islands and lake channels is a rewarding experience. The Hill Tracts are inhabited by a number of distinctive enterprising tribes such as the Chakmas, the Moghs, the Tripuras, the Kukis, the Murangs and the Tenchangs. They are friendly and hospitable and are well-known for their love of colourful dresses, dancing and music.

Bangladesh Parjatan Corporation has tourist accommodation at Kaptaip with rent-a-car, rent-a-boat and bar facilities for holiday-makers. Local sight-seeing tours are also arranged in microbuses.

Rangamati: This picturesque town of the Chittagong Hill Tracts district, known for its rare scenic beauty and unspoiled tribal life, is just 48 miles from Chittagong by road. It is perched on the bank of the Kaptaip lake making it accessible by water as well. Tourists can stay at the Circuit House and look for exciting bargains in various handicrafts of the tribal people who traditionally live in bamboo huts in thick forests as neighbours of wild animals. Rangamati has become a favourite holiday resort.

The place is well connected with Khulna by telecommunication and river transport.

Sunderbans: Spread over an area of 2,316 square miles of deltaic swamp along the coastal belt of Khulna district, the Sunderbans are the home of the royal Bengal tiger. Its dense evergreen rain forests are criss-crossed by a network of rivers and creeks. One finds here tides flowing in two directions in the same creek and often tigers swimming across river and huge crocodiles bask in the sun. The Sunderbans are a must for game lovers and anglers. Tigers, spotted deer, monkeys, pythons, crocodiles, fishes and tropical birds abound here. These forests are accessible by river from Chilma and Khulna and there are rest houses for the visitors to stay and enjoy unspoiled nature with all its charm and majesty. Spending some days and nights deep inside the forests can be a rare treat for lover of nature. The mid-forest tourist lodge at Nilkamal, now under construction is an ideal wilderness dream-spot.

The Sunderbans are also a busy place for the wood-cutters. They yield a sizeable quantity of timber, fire-wood and reeds for the country. Grewa wood from these forests is used for making pulp for the newsprint mill in Khulna. Honey is also produced here.

Kaptai: A pleasant and picturesque drive of 40 miles from Chittagong through lush-green countryside brings you to a huge expanse of emerald-blue water ringed with green tropical forests. This is the famous Kaptai Lake, man-made and spread over an area of 265 sq. miles of water formed by damming the Karnaphuli river for a hydroelectric plant to generate 80,000 kilowatts of power for the national grid. Once a happy hunting ground for wild animals, Kaptai is now a quiet modern township served by good roads and modern amenities of life. There are telephones, banks, good transport and air-conditioned rest houses which provide good food. For the tourists, the attractions of Kaptai are numerous and varied — wildlife,



Lake cruising at Rangamati.

Biman's winter schedule

BIMAN, Bangladesh Airlines, is all set to resume its suspended operation to Japan next winter with expanded two flights a week, instead of one flight earlier.

The long-awaited resumption of flight became a possibility

with the signing of a "Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)" at Biman head office on April 12, at the end of three days of negotiations between Bangladesh and Japan.

Under the MOU, Biman will be able to operate twice weekly flights to Japan — one to Tokyo and the other to up and coming important centre, Nagoya.

Biman, after operating once a week Boeing 707 flight to Tokyo for about a year in 1981, suspended it mainly due to poor economic returns. But Biman is now

hopeful about its success primarily because of dramatic changes in the Japanese travel market, stemming from the growing strength of yen and highly intensified inclination of the Japanese nationals to travel abroad.

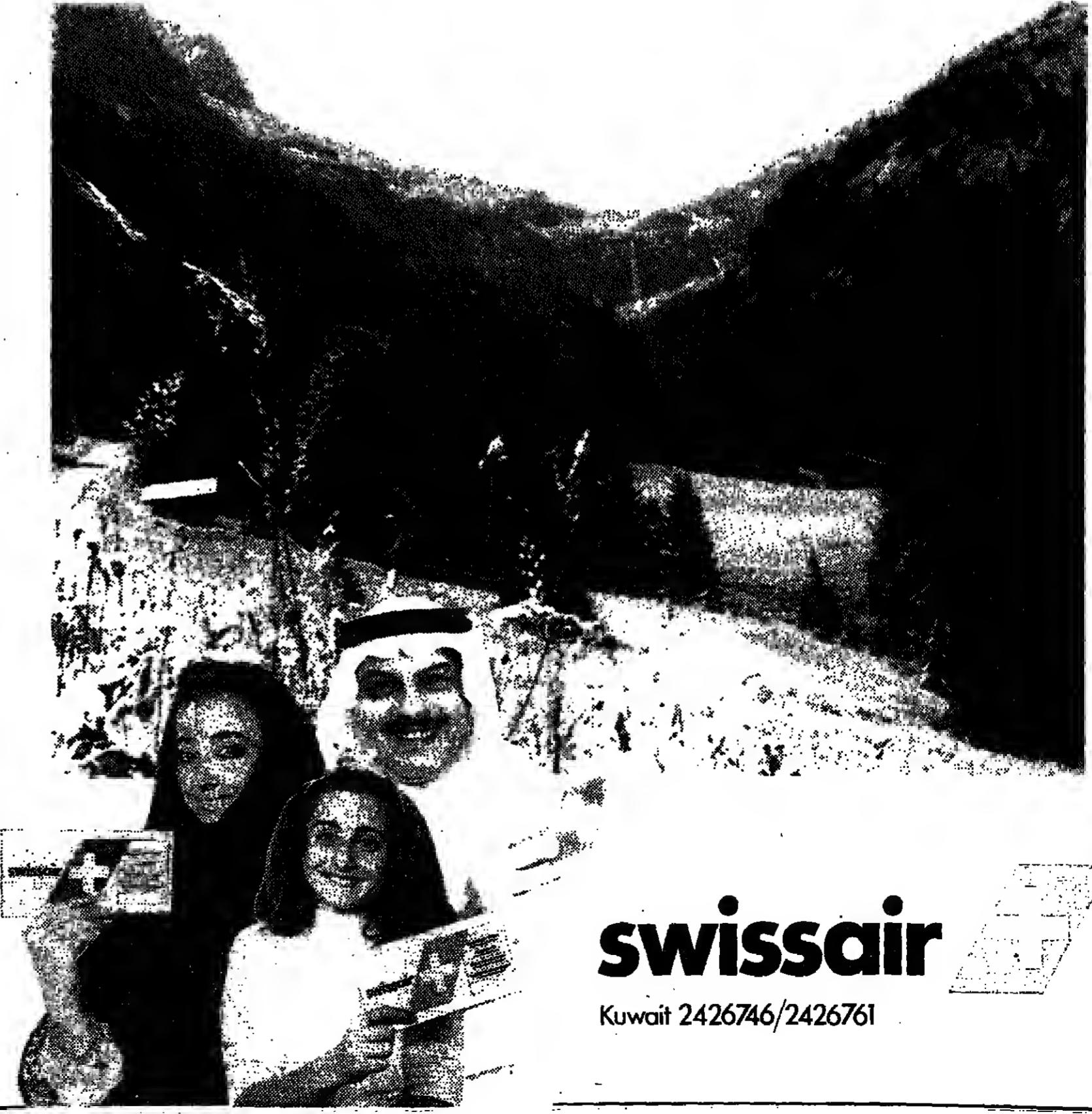
The MOU provided Biman expansion of frequency from one flight a week to two flights and also allowed the airline to operate wide-bodied DC 10-30 aircraft with much higher capacity as well as fifth freedom traffic right. Biman will now be

able to carry passenger and cargo between intermediate destinations like Bangkok or Singapore and Japan.

The MOU was signed by M. Kibria, joint secretary, Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism and Takemi Shishijuka, senior negotiator, International Aviation Division of Japanese Ministry of Transport, on behalf of their respective governments. The MOU has also allowed the Japanese airlines to operate twice weekly services to Dhaka and Chittagong.

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Austria

Friendly city

Close look at charming Salzburg

By Gerhard F. Markus

WHEN I was talking to a friend of mine not long ago, the conversation turned to Salzburg, and she said, "If I was told I had to go to one place in the world and stay there forever, Salzburg would be at the top of my list."

The charm this perfect gem of a city radiates so richly elicits enthusiastic reactions from most visitors. Another very well-travelled lady put it like this, "To me, just being there is important. The pace of the city makes tensions fall away, fills me with a sense of peace."

Salzburg is Europe in pure, concentrated form. Whatever makes a European city special, Salzburg has it — a winding river, a cathedral, sharply rising hills, palaces, fine restaurants, a spectacular mountain backdrop, a large fortified castle, open squares, museums, elegies of hotels, narrow lanes, formal gardens, abbeys, great shops, bridges — all within easy walking distance.

It is this compactness that gives the city its intimacy; the short distances impart a sense of familiarity. Salzburg has great visual appeal that comes directly from the proximity of the magnificent structures, from their perceptual deosity. Quite literally, as even a brief glimpse from *Makartsteg*, *Kapuzinerberg* or the terrace on *Monchsberg* will demonstrate, Salzburg is "as pretty as a picture."

This is a city you have to get to know on foot in order to be properly introduced. Narrow medieval lanes, the many little passages from one street through a courtyard to another, steps up the hill, all these looks and crannies cannot be negotiated by any vehicle, not even a horse-drawn carriage. Don't be afraid of retracing your steps, of going the same way again — there are always new details, new angles, new surprises you will notice for the first time.

The medieval closeness of the patrician town is protective, friendly, secure. By contrast, the grandiose design and the splendour of the archbishops' city are uplifting, inspiring, an impressive demonstration of power both spiritual and worldly.

Around 1600, Prince Archbishop Wolf Dietrich von Raitenau condemned some church property and bought the houses of an entire quarter, had everything razed and began to have his idea of a mighty cathedral and a properly princely residence turned into reality. The concept of a city like this grew from making stone speak of the glory of God and His governors on Earth, the archbishops. The wealth to make it happen came out of the salt mines. The combination was fortuitous, the time was right, and we are sharing in the beauty thus created.

Salzburg is a city of music, not only during festival time but all year round. Earnest young men and women practice hard and perform with verve at the *Mozartkonzert*. The sounds of a choir, an organist, a chamber group rehearsing waft from churches and schools on spring and summer days when windows are open. Folklore with the music of the country people entertains visitors and citizens alike. On some evenings you just know that Mozart is going to come around the next corner as you stroll along through the quiet streets.

Salzburg takes on a new character, touches a different set of chords in the weeks before Christmas. Old Advent songs from the nearby mountain country are performed and raise the spirit of the season in everyone. There is nothing more beautiful, more peaceful, than the city, with all the stalls of the Christmas Market set up in the square in front of the cathedral, their warm lights cutting through the early dusk, the smells of gingerbread and hot wine, a forest of Christmas trees on *Residenzplatz*, the bells of a church pealing, and snow falling gently on this whole scene.

Salzburg's romance is genuine. From the way the city presents itself, you know the fountains are illuminated for lovers, not for tourists. All those who assist the traveller with his or her daily needs and pleasures do it in a manner that draws the guest in, making everyone feel truly welcome, more like a relative who has come to visit than a stranger. One caution: Salzburg is habit-forming.



St. Stephen's Cathedral as painted by Rudolf von Alt in 1834; a lane in the Old Quarter

Vienna

City of dreams

By Shelby Hodge

VIENNA slides gracefully into the heart in three-quarters of an hour, quickly capturing the imagination with her eloquent physical presence, encircling the spirit in an aura of gentle nostalgia, rhythmically seducing the visitor with a centuries-old charm that remains as alluring today as during the glittering period of *Vienna gloria*.

It is a city unlike any other. Situated at the confluence of the Central European mountain massif and the Eastern European plain, Vienna enjoys a unique blending of cultures that results in a distinctive middle European character. Hand in hand with that special ambience are the refined tastes, graceful style and artistic accomplishments that adorn her past and present, insuring an unmatched sophistication.

Thus, Vienna stands proudly as the *grande dame* of the Continent. Having served as capital of the glittering Habsburg Empire for 600 years, the city could be nothing less than the belle of the European ball. Through the centuries, Vienna has remained true to her past as the Imperial capital. She has neither grown too large nor declined to something less than what she might have been. In short, Vienna remains Vienna — truly a city of dreams, the capital of an entity and of an idea. It is a city blessed with a legacy of cultural brilliance, architectural splendor and the luxury of leisurely living. Dressed in a flowing gown of

Gothic and Baroque design, the city is at once outlandishly formal and invitingly comfortable. Witness the ornate facade of the wedding cake-Gothic Votive Church and compare its elaborate architecture to the sweet simplicity of the city's small squares and narrow mazels. Likewise, the traditional "click of the heels" and "kiss on the hand" are continued politesse between ladies and gentlemen. The ultimate in Viennese formality is experienced during the elegant Opera Ball and New Year's Eve festivities. Conversely, in the wine taverns of Grinzing, all is relaxed *Gemutlichkeit*.

And the Viennese penchant for costume-like dirndl and lodeo wear contributes to a bit of pleasing provincialism.

Quite naturally, the visitor's love affair with Vienna — for who does not readily fall captive to the enchanting city — is played out against a backdrop of musical splendor. The city of Haydn, Beethoven, Mozart, Schubert, Brahms and Bruckner stands above all others in its rich heritage of musical achievement. A generous programme of concerts by the city's two great orchestras — the Vienna Philharmonic and the Vienna Symphony Orchestra — maintains the melodic tempo of the city's cultural life. Add the spirited three-quarter time of Johann Strauss' creation and the sweetly innocent voices of the Vienna Boys' Choir, and one comprehends the common concept that Viennese citizenry comprises an audience of 1.5 million.

Year-round the city is alive with the sound of music — from the stages of the State Opera and the Volksoper in the winter season to the outdoor garden and palace concerts of spring and summer. Chamber music concerts in ornate palace salons, performances of waltz tunes in public parks and operettas in open plazas fill Vienna's summer nights with familiar strains. These melodies of the city become musical themes for the dream and the reality that is romantic Vienna.

Beneath the complex allure of art and architecture, music and social custom lie the more easily accessible pleasure of Vienna. A ride through the inner city in a *Flieker* provides both a step back in time and a leisurely pursuit of contemporary Vienna. A jaunt to the famed Ferris wheel in the Prater, the immense park once the private game preserve of Habsburg princes, presents a stunning panorama of the city. And an afternoon or an hour in one of the city's numerous coffee houses places one close to the heart of revered Viennese tradition.

In the coffee houses of Vienna, as in no other city's most honored institution, the visitor is offered a course of instruction in an enduring social art — a combination of perfecting relaxation and indulging in the good life. It is more than simply sipping a plain coffee. One must join the Viennese in consuming a rich coffee concoction and a calorie-laden pastry.

Innsbruck

By Claire Walter

SUMMER or winter, Innsbruck has everything Americans go to Europe for. This enchanting city set beside a swiftly flowing river amid the scenic splendour of the Tyrolean Alps, features a medieval old town, fascinating museums, wonderful shops, sparkling nightlife, and accommodations and eating places in all price ranges. Innsbruck — a city of culture and a city of sports — is a compact place which couples urban pleasures with outdoor ones.

The downtown is a wonderful melange of several centuries worth of architecture that bleed in charming harmony. The soaring mountains all around make skiing, hiking, climbing and simply gazing at the magnificent peaks and panoramas a rare and welcome counterpoint to city life. And to top it off, Innsbruck is convenient to visit. It is located at the crossroads of Europe at the intersection of key north-south and east-west railroad lines and highways.

This central location was responsible for Innsbruck's prominence as long ago as the 12th century, when it is known to have been an important market and trading outpost. Astonishingly, it is still possible to see the city much as it was in that era. By the next century, Innsbruck had grown into a walled town with a watchtower and belfry that remains a landmark today.

Visitors step through the centuries when they pass into this unique old town to stroll narrow cobblestone streets where cars are prohibited. The lanes are narrow and the street-level arcades under many of the buildings, designed in a typical medieval style, are tinier still. Now and again the old city offers such surprises as the pink and white confection of a high-Rococo rowhouse whose elaborate ornamentation is a perfect counterpoint to the somber facades of the other buildings which look as they did in the Middle Ages. In the warm months, the hilltop central square is ablaze with summer flowers. In December, it sparkles as the site of Innsbruck's charming Christmas market.

Just steps away, outside the ancient walls, are monuments from other centuries: an elegant Baroque palace here, a somber Gothic church there. A broad avenue rich with enticing shops in one direction, a riverfront quai lined with pastel-coloured houses in another. A museum of traditional Tyrolean arts and crafts on one side of the old city, a modern university on another. Looming above them all, seemingly close enough to touch, is the *Nordkette*, a steep Alpine headwall. It is the closest and most dramatic of the mountains that surround the city, a silent yet constant reminder of the geography which has given the Tyrol its character and strength.

A Flieker blends into Vienna's traffic.

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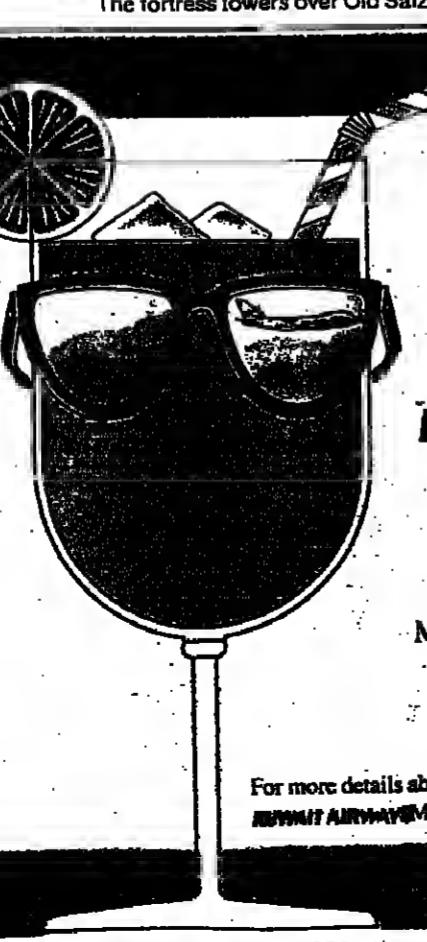
The fortress towers over Old Salzburg.

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Turkey — a tourist paradise

THE ancients called it Asia Minor, that thumb of fertile land emerging from the deserts of Arabia in the south which connects the land mass of Asia proper with Europe, while at the same time dividing the Black Sea from the Mediterranean.

Today, after innumerable cultural permutations, the land that has always been the bridge between the Orient and Occident is called Turkey, heir to the cultural richness of the 7,000 recorded years of changing peoples, civilisations, ideas and religions that have risen or taken root in the land that is Anatolia.

Even the most cursory journey through Anatolia results in a dizzying confrontation with overlapping historical periods, any one of which might well occupy a scholar for a lifetime.

On the road leading from the 11th century AD Seljuk Turkish city of Erzurum in the east, for example, one crosses a bridge built by the Romans on what later became the Silk Road, which passes under the shadow of Mount Ararat where Noah's Ark allegedly came to rest. Remains of the Urartian civilisation mentioned in the annals of Gilgamesh lie scattered in the surrounding valley.

To the west overlooking the Dardanelles lies the ancient city of Troy; no pipe-induced dream of the blind bard Homer, but the real city of Hector, Helen and Ulysses, scarred by fire when put to the torch by the men of the original Trojan Horse. The cliffs of Gallipoli — the venue for some of World War One's most vicious fighting — are within sight across the channel.

To the south, strung out like so many so many pearls along the berryline waters of the eastern Mediterranean, are scores of ancient cities and citadels, ranging from the Crusader castle at Bodrum (once called Halicarnassus, the home-town of that traveller-quæ-traveller, Herodotus) to the mountain fastness of Telmessos, the only city-state of antiquity able to resist Alexander the Great.

To the north, finally, is Istanbul, formerly Coconstantinople, the capital city of two great world empires, with half the city found in Europe, and half in Asia, separated by one of the most strategic channels of antiquity and the modern world alike, the



Ephesus

Bosphorus.

It is easy to see why both the Byzantines and Ottoman Turks selected Istanbul — called Constantinople under the Byzantines — for the capital of their world empires: scenically, the city that straddles both Europe and Asia has to be one of the most naturally beautiful urban sites in the world; strategically, the Bosphorus links the city to both the Black Sea as well as the Aegean, making it a natural entrepot as well as guardian of traditional East-West trade routes.

Within the confines of the city itself are found some of the great sacral architecture of Christianity — such as St Sophia — as well as the very jewels of Muslim architectural genius, notably the Blue Mosque. The great Byzantine walls still stand, as does the Galata Tower, built by the Genoese in their section of the old city prior to its conquest by the Turks in 1453.

Istanbul also boasts perhaps the greatest example of the traditional Middle Eastern market in the Grand Covered Bazaar, where all manner of goods and souvenirs — especially brass and oriental carpets — can be bargained for.

Museums? Istanbul has dozens, but the main attraction for visitors is Topkapi Palace, where relics of the past — including the fabled "Light of Day" dagger with its emerald encrusted handle — are kept in trust.

Istanbul is a city oriented toward the sea, and the best excursions from the metropolitan area are made by ferry boat, either up the Bosphorus to the fairy-tale castles of Rumeli and Anadolu Hisar, or downstream into the Sea of Marmara for a stop at one of the Princes Islands, where no motorised traffic is allowed.

Bursa

Situated at the base of pine-covered Mount Ulus (claimed by some as the "original" Mount Olympus), Bursa was selected as the first capital of the nascent Ottoman Turks, and was invested with some of the greatest early Ottoman architecture. A singularly clean and beautiful city today, it remains a favourite "getaway" for residents of Istanbul and Ankara seeking a slower pace for the weekend, good food, and a dip in the area's numerous thermal baths.

The covered market in Bursa is second only to the Grand Covered Bazaar in Istanbul, and the peak of Mount Ulus is a favourite ski resort in winter.

Edirne

Ancient Adrianople on the banks of the Maritsa river on the borders of what are now Greece and Bulgaria, was established as the second Ottoman capital after the sacking of Bursa by the Mongols. Perhaps even more than Bursa, Edirne remains the emotional heart of the Ottoman empire, and it is that city that Ottomans endowed with sacral and secular architecture as no other in their realm. Particularly impressive is the Selimiye Mosque designed by the master builder Sinan, whose mosques, schools, bridges and palaces stretch from Edirne to Damascus in what is referred to as the Sinan Road.

A special treat for visitors to Edirne are the annual greasy wrestling championships of males ranging in age from five to fifty drench themselves in olive oil and wrestle for the glory of God (and cash prizes), one the hallowed field of Kirkpinar.

Izmir and the Aegean

Izmir, formerly called Smyrna, was gutted by fire at the end of Turkey's war of independence against the Greeks, but no scars remain today in what is the country's third largest city and most active port. It is also the sea and sand capital of the country, and the natural base for dozens of possible excursions, ranging from the Gallipoli battlefield and Troy to the north, to the "Blue Voyage" yachting centres of Bodrum and Marmaris to the south.

In the immediate neighbourhood of Izmir are the Hellenic cities of Bergama (Pergamum) where paper was first invented, Sardis, the capital of ancient Lydia where gold and silver coins were first minted, and Ephesus, which must qualify as one of the most stunning archaeological sites in the world, and where an annual camel wrestling contest is held each January in the old stadium where gladiators, Christians and lions were formerly employed.

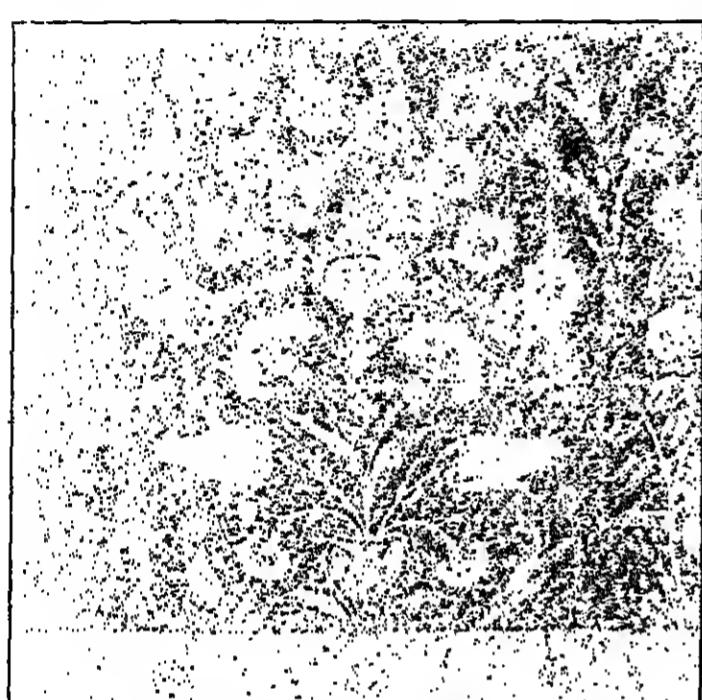
Further away is Aphrodisias, the home of major school of Roman sculpture, forgotten



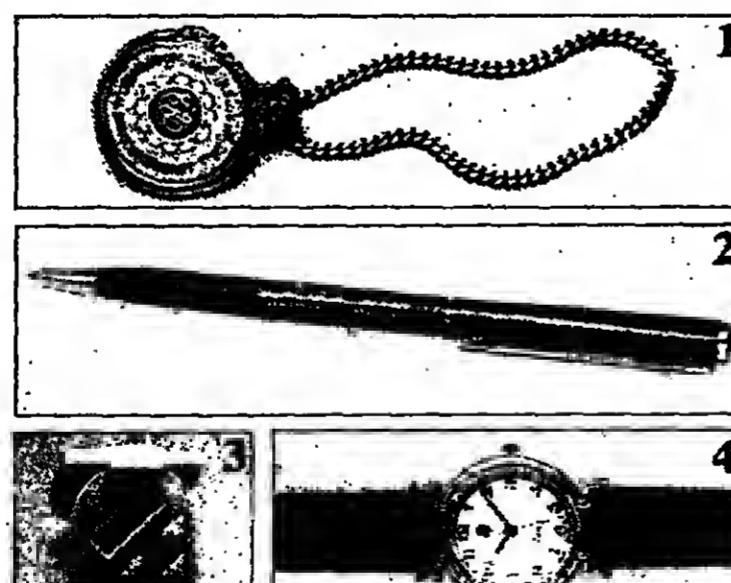
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until a local farmer unearthed a perfectly preserved bust of the goddess of love, Aphrodite in the 1960's, leading to the on-going excavation of the treasure-trove site.

An hour by car away from Aphrodisias is Pamukkale, or the "cotton castle," a series of white calcium pools formed by hot springs, and used as a spa from Roman times down to our own.

Antalya and the Eastern Mediterranean

Antalya is the touristic capital of Turkey's still unsullied (and only slightly discovered) eastern Mediterranean coast; the old harbour was recently renovated, preserving sense of having once been a pirates' cove while catering to the international yachting crowd.

To the west of Antalya is Turkey's wild coast, an area known in history as Lycia, with pine-studded mountains plunging down to the untainted sea. Spectacular funerary monuments carved by the ancients into the very faces of cliffs and mountains dot the rugged countryside, but are centred in the town of Demre, once called Myra, and the place where the historical St Nicholas earned his gift-giving reputation while serving as bishop during the 4th century.

East of Antalya the coast is littered with ancient cities and theatres like so many jewels scattered along the endless sand beaches; a favourite is Side, a town thick with ancient pillars, sculpture and buildings that it is not unusual to find a disco or restaurant half built into some ancient edifice.

Ankara and Central Anatolia

Ankara, the capital of modern Turkey, is essentially a new city with little to offer the traveller other than a few excellent museums and the edifices of modern Turkish political life, notably the Ataturk mausoleum.

But what Ankara might lack as a touristic destination in and of itself, it makes up for as a base of operations for forays into the fascinating central-Anatolian hinterland.

The main attraction in the region is Cappadocia, a series of valleys some four hours east of Ankara which have been eroded by wind and rain into a spectacular landscape of rock cones, capped pinnacles ("fairy chimneys") and fretted ravines. Not content with nature's artwork, early Christians seeking refuge from both orthodox Christianity and Muslim invaders alike carved homes, chapels and monasteries out of the soft rock; and even a complete underground city with ventilation shafts and a sewage disposal system.

Some two hours south of Ankara is Konya, the capital of the Seljuk Turks, and the city that gave rise to the Whirling Dervishes who still perform that ecstatic whirling rite every December. A major agricultural centre, Konya remains one of Turkey's most religiously conservative towns, filled with grey-bearded men and black-robed women attending prayers at the city's numerous historic mosques.

Other excursions out of Ankara would include a day trip to Gordion, the capital of ancient Phrygia where Alexander the Great solved the enigma of the famous "Gordion Knot" by splitting it with his sword, and the near-by town of Aksiehir, where the Turkish wise fool sage Nasrettin Hoja lies buried in a tomb with a window from which he can survey the world.

For those interested in obscure history, Ankara is also a convenient starting point to visit the remains of the once great Hittite civilisation native to Central Anatolia. Mentioned in passing in the Bible, the Hittites received scant scholarly attention until the 1950's, after which point many a scholarly book on the ancient world has had to be revised or entirely rewritten.

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Thailand

Exotic land in the heart of Asia

THAILAND, once known as Siam, is an exotic country in the heart of Southeast Asia. It is a land where the past and present meet to produce a kaleidoscope of stunning attractions, coloured by a unique culture and enduring traditions. Giving life to this enchanting world are the gentle and genuinely hospitable Thais who extended a warm welcome to all visitors. Indeed a country of golden places and smiling faces.

Roughly the size of France with a population of some 50 million Thailand is bordered by Burma to the west, Kampuchea to the east, Laos to the North and Malaysia to the south. It is a tropical country with three seasons, summer from February through May, rainy with plenty of sunshine from June to September and cool from October through January. The average annual temperature is 28°C (83°F).

Sights and scenes are rich and varied, from the golden-spired temples and palaces of Bangkok to the majestic ruins of ancient cities; from the excitement of beach or resorts to the quiet charm of tranquil rural towns.

Nature has been generous with her gifts too. As varied as the historical and cultural sights is the beauty of ever-changing landscapes — idyllic tropical islands, unspoilt sandy beaches, jungle-clad mountains, rivers, waterfalls and fertile plains supporting a patchwork of rice paddies, all bathed in year-round sunshine.

Added to all this is a wonderfully piquant national cuisine with a huge variety of spicy dishes — not to mention an abundance of succulent tropical fruits — that affords delicious discoveries for even the most well-travelled gourmet. Then there is an enormous range of shopping possibilities and, above all, superb accommodation and transport facilities to ensure a stay in perfect comfort.

Unique

Giving a unique character to the land and people is a quintessential quality of "Thainess" which stems from a strong adherence to traditions that have evolved over more than 700 years of independent development. This is most readily witnessed in



Touring by longtail in the north.

the practice of the Buddhist faith and in the deep respect and love accorded to the king, made manifest in numerous religious and royal festivals and ceremonies as well as pervading aspects of daily life.

At the same time, Thailand is a modern dynamic nation, firmly planted in the 20th century and eyeing the 21st with confidence. Throughout the land there is thus a remarkable blend of the old and the new. This means that while the cultural heritage has been preserved to a extraordinary degree, the visitor can also appreciate the comfort and convenience provided by the most up-to-date facilities.

Bangkok

Because of this, coupled with the amazing choice of things to do and see, Thailand is the ideal vacation destination for all kinds of visitors — single travellers exploring the world, couples, families, and retired people who seek an extended stay in a place where it is always sunny and where there need never be a dull moment. Moreover, Thailand is inexpensive and affords the amenities to suit whatever the preference, whatever the budget.

For most visitors, Bangkok, the capital, is both Thailand's gateway and principal destination. Initial impressions are of a modern metropolis geared to the

needs of today's world. Joyfully exuberant, the city embraces latter-day and largely Western inspired development. You see towering office blocks, world-class deluxe hotels, and other thrusting highrise bulldozers.

Amazingly this fabulous city manages at the same time to present wonderous images of its cultural heritage — The Grand Palace, Temple of the Emerald Buddha, and Temple of the Dawn, to name but three, magnificent sights. Here the visitor is presented with dazzling images of Oriental splendour.

Fabulous though Bangkok sightseeing is, viewing awe-inspiring national treasures is not all the city has to offer. Shopping, whether in typical Thai markets or in luxury department stores, offers a host of excellent buys, jewellery and gemstones, tailor-made clothing, antiques and an enormous variety of handicrafts in wood, ceramic, bronze and other traditional materials.

Dining out is another world of discovery with, in addition to spicy Thai food, virtually the whole range of other national cuisines available at a staggering price categories. As for entertainment, the choice is again plentiful, from cultural shows, theatre, musical performances, cocktail lounges,

In different mood, the resorts

Beach resorts

Beyond Bangkok, touring possibilities cater to all interests. A tropical climate combined with a long coastline, means that Thailand offers a superb choice of beach resorts where five hotels complement the delights of beautiful natural settings. Just a two-hour drive southeast of the capital is Pattaya on the Gulf of Thailand. It is a colourful and vibrant place where a complete spectrum of watersports amenities is blended with a wealth of on-land entertainment to ensure there is never a dull moment night or day.

In different mood, the resorts

of Hua Hin and Cha-am, on the opposite side of the Gulf from Pattaya, present a quieter scene for a more restful enjoyment of sun, sea and sand.

Further afield, the island of Phuket, off the southwest coast, an hour's flight from Bangkok, is different again. Here is truly breathtaking tropical coastal scenery — unspoilt beaches of powdery white sand and the clear blue waters of the Andaman Sea set against a backdrop of rolling hills and lush green vegetation.

Even more pristine is Samui island off the southeast coast. Less developed than Phuket it affords the perfect escape into a Robinson Crusoe world — with, of course, all creature comforts.

Hill country

If such joys as windsurfing, scuba diving or simply lazing on a beach and soaking up the tropical sunshine are not your preference, northern Thailand presents a very different scene. This is hill country where elephants still work in the teak forests and various colourful hilltribes maintain lifestyles largely unaffected by mainstream society. It is also a more traditional part of Thailand and the pace of life is slower than in Bangkok.

Capital of the North is Chiang Mai, an old and delightful city, distinguished by a long history as the one-time power centre of an independent Thai kingdom. Thus there is a wealth of ancient



Idyllic island scenery in the south.

temples and other cultural attractions that are quite distinct from those of Bangkok.

Chiang Mai is also one of the world's largest centres for cottage industries and here you can see craftsmen using skills that have been passed on from generation to generation to produce a wide variety of handicrafts — silverware, celadon pottery, lacquerware, woodcarving, handmade paper umbrellas and more. The place is a veritable shopper's paradise and the visitor can also trek in the jungles of the 'Golden Triangle' to visit hilltribe villages, travelling either on foot, by elephant or river.

For history and culture buffs, Thailand has a rich fascination.

The land has been a cultural crossroads and many sites exist as silent witnesses to the country's evolution. To the northeastern

village of Ban Chao archaeological finds have yielded evidence of a civilization dating back more than 5,000 years. Moving from prehistoric times into recorded history, the northeast region also boasts the finest Khmer monuments of the Angkor period to be seen outside Kampuchea.

Relating to the Thai period proper, there are the ruins of the first capital, Sukhothai, founded in the 13th century and today preserved in an attractive historical park. Many other historic towns around the country, such as Lop Buri, further preserve monuments attesting to the past glories of the Thai kingdom.

Guide to hiring a car in UK

By Judith Carter

I WAS in a hurry. No, I hadn't driven this particular car before, but I'd been hiring cars for years and, thank you, I was sure I could work out the controls. The lady from the car hire company departed. For the rest of my trip I heaved my luggage on and off the back seat, unable to find the catch that opened the boot (that's the trunk). The moral of that tale is this: never pass up the chance of having every little switch explained to you.

All the major car hire companies offer a free collection and delivery service at international airports in Britain. Some extend this to railway stations, which is to me the ultimate in freedom: the chance to speed out of a major city by rail, arriving, say, in the Scottish Highlands in time to find a remote coastal road, there to watch the sun set over the western isles... you can see that I need no persuasion.

Hire charges do not vary greatly, although a Rolls Royce will obviously cost considerably more than a modest four-door saloon. You can usually save money by using a smaller, or local, company, and though these don't always offer the same degree of flexibility as a national organisation you might appreciate what is often a more easy-going and informal approach.

If you're planning your itinerary day by day, it's nice to be able to call a nation-wide hire company to say, for example, that you'll leave the car at Newcastle instead of Birmingham without incurring extra charges.

Check on what is included in the hire "package". The amount of free petrol and free mileage varies. Unless you're feeling intrepid, make sure that the vehicle is covered by a 24-hour rescue service. Both the Automobile Association (AA) and the Royal Automobile Club (RAC) operate a "relay" service which guarantees transport to your destination should your vehicle break down or be involved in an accident. This covers pretty much all eventualities, but it will not get you out of self-induced trouble, as one hapless visitor to Britain discovered last year. Emerging from a city-centre department store he was astonished to see his hire car some ten feet up in the air. Neatly manoeuvred by a mobile crane on to an adjacent truck, his car sped off to the local pound. Tough treatment for those who park illegally (that's on double yellow lines and, within advertised times, on single yellow lines) now includes wheel clamping and impounding.

I know it seems unlikely to first-timers, but driving on the left is not as daunting a prospect as it sounds. Before you hit the high roads, spend a little time in a quiet side street getting to know the car. Choosing an automatic gearbox might make driving easier, but it's more expensive on petrol and less fun on hills and winding roads where "stick shift" definitely gives you more precision. Of course you won't need reminding that most manual gearboxes have five forward and one reverse gear, or will you?

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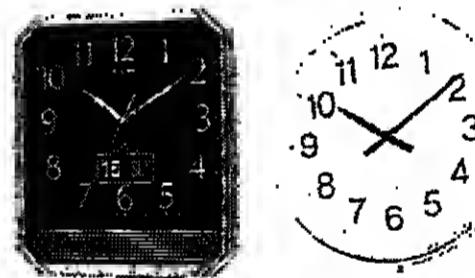
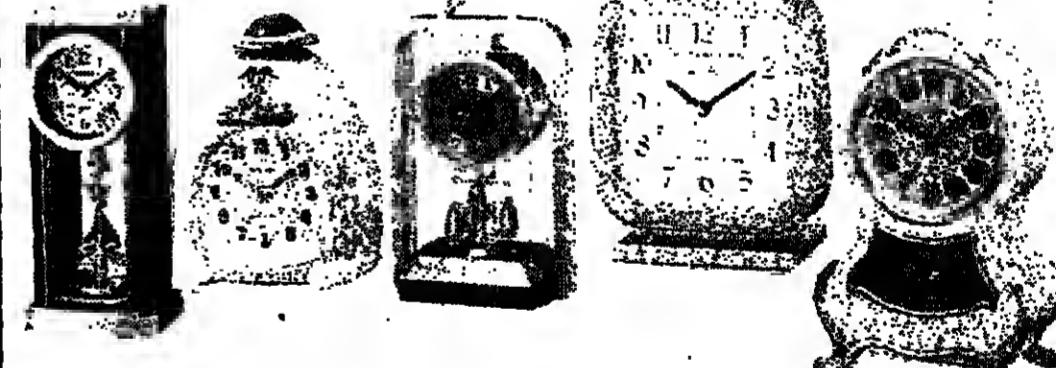


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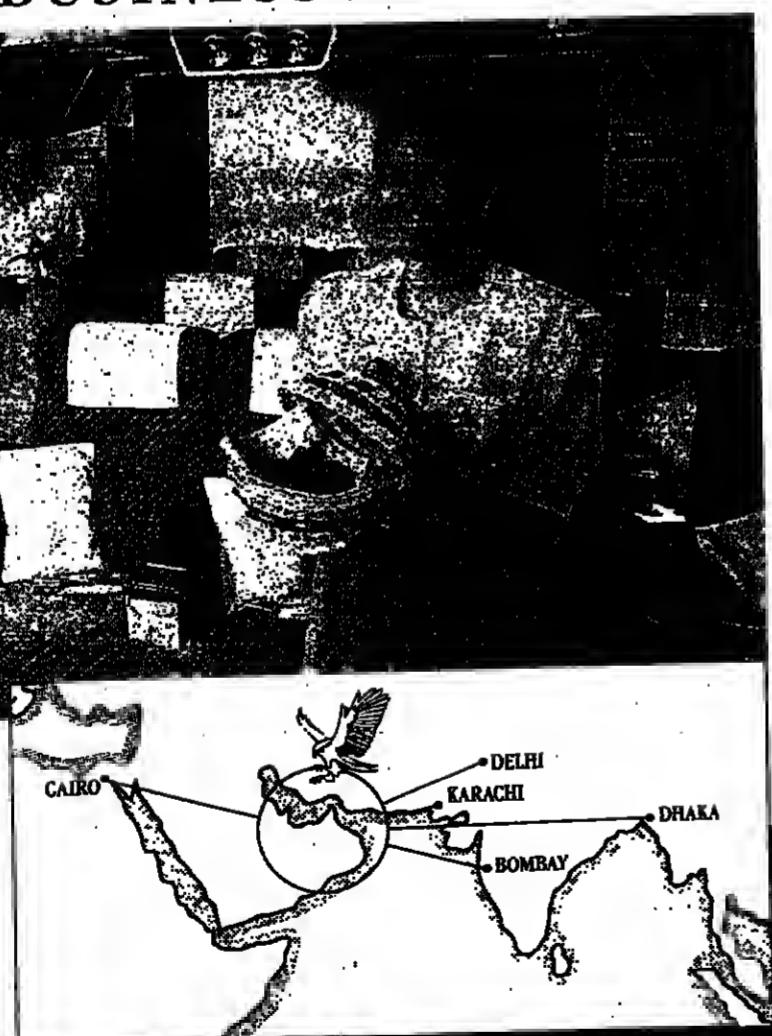
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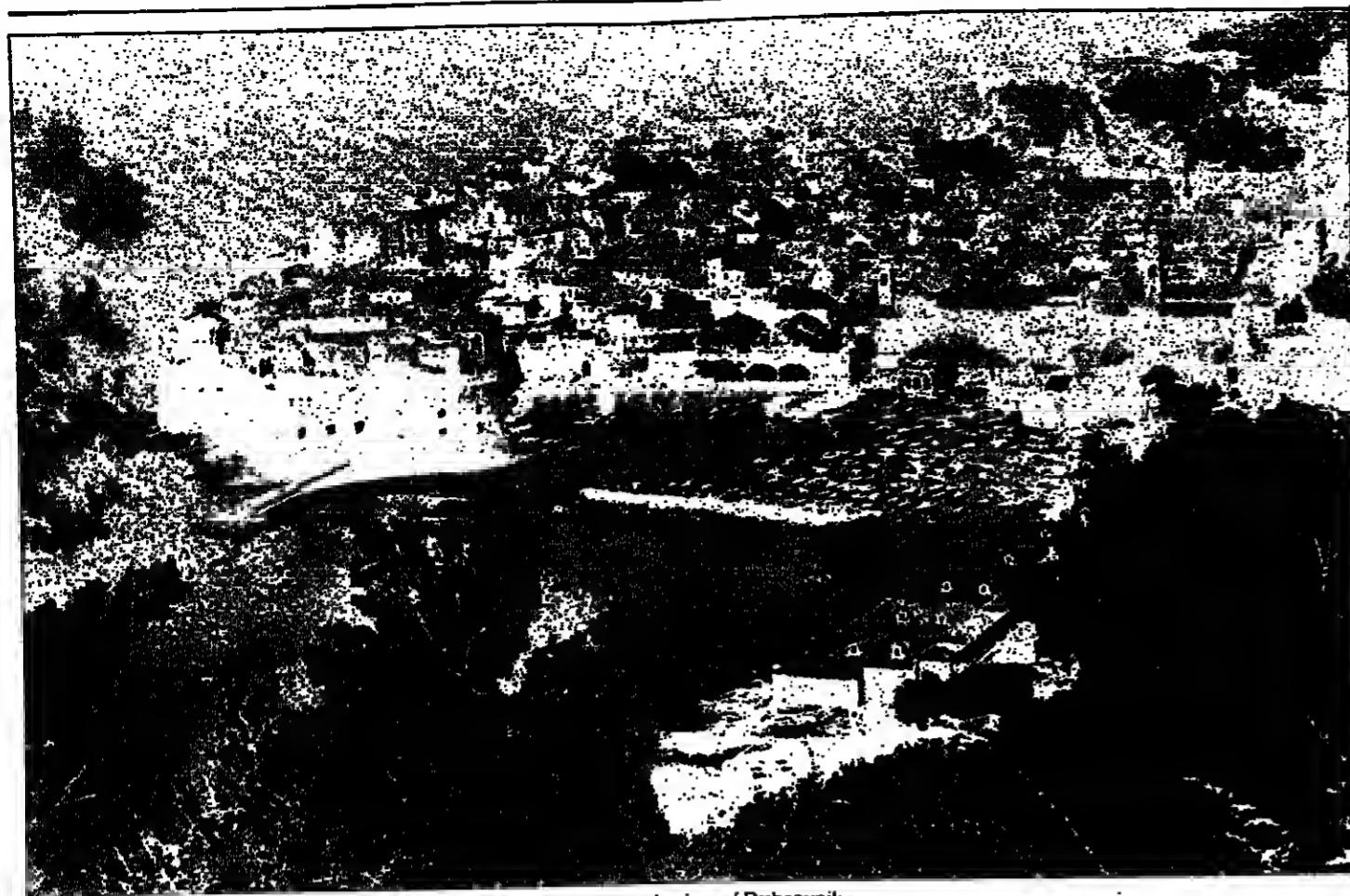
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A panoramic view of Dubrovnik.

Travel sport: all at sea

Set sail and discover the charm of the high seas

By Adrienne Pielou

ONE of the best holidays I've ever had was a week in spring a few years ago spent sailing along the coast of Yugoslavia. We awoke each morning to blue skies and a light breeze and, after bacon and eggs on deck, we stepped ashore for the day's briefing by the skipper. By ten the anchor was up. Sails billowing, we were off along one of the most ravishing coasts in Europe, heading for a luncheon rendezvous in some empty bay. By late afternoon, as the sun was dropping in the sky, we'd finally sail into a port for the night. And that was my favourite bit.

The ports were invariably ancient little villages, either on the beautiful-pine-forested mainland coast or the craggy little

islands that do it, with a semi-circle of fishermen's houses and tavernas lining the stone quayside. We tied up, then showered and changed clothes, savouring the feelings of hunger, thirst and virtuous exhaustion.

At 6.30pm, we were seated at a table outside one of those hustling quayside tavernas, ordering grilled fish and white wine, and watching the sun set on the horizon.

Our flotilla was made up of nine 28ft, six-birth yachts, and our fellow sailors ranged from a nine-month-old non-participant who spent the week in a miniature life-jacket in a canopied rush crib lashed to the deck, to a family group of nine — two weather-beaten grandparents, two daughters and their husbands, and three grandchildren

— who chartered a pair of boats for the week.

There were three of us on our yacht, plus a skipper who slept on the mother boat. We started the week with no experience of handling a yacht (one knew how to sail a dinghy and that was it), but we were keen to learn, and discovered that by joining a flotilla holiday we could also hire a skipper who would teach us to crew as we went along. It worked brilliantly. The two of us with no experience just followed orders as obediently as possible, but after three days of tuition from our patient, capable skipper — a 22-year-old ex-merchant seaman who came from Plymouth — the dinghy sailor was confident enough to be able to share skippering shifts. We could hardly bear to go home at the end of the

Tempted? If you were thinking

of another fortnight by the Mediterranean this summer, it's not too late to book. Even if your family has never set foot in a boat, you can join a crewed flotilla holiday. As long as you book at least a couple of weeks in advance, the flotilla companies will happily provide a skipper and mate to sail the boat for you.

If you can already handle a boat, however, this could be the summer you start exploring Britain's beautiful lakes and waterways.

Renting a yacht on Lake Windermere, for instance,

which is a lovely way to see the Lake District, needn't cost you more than around £200. And, at its cheapest and most basic, a sailing holiday can mean renting a narrow-boat for a weekend in the autumn, and seeing the countryside from a new perspective as

you chug along a scenic stretch of our 2,000-mile system of canals.

Or why not sign up for a jolly weekend's canoeing? This is a wonderfully satisfying aspect of sailing because it's so easy to pick up, and being so close to the water somehow reduces the fear of falling in. As long as you arrange your own accommodation, weekend courses — at this time of year under way on virtually every sizeable stretch of water in Britain — can often cost from as little as £30 per person.

Yachting and dinghy sailing

Sailing schools with weekend and week-long courses for novices operate all around the British coast. Children are usually accepted from the age of eight/ten (accompanied) and

ten/twelve (unaccompanied); the usual requirement is confidence in the water with a buoyancy aid or wearing a life-jacket. Some schools, however, stipulate that children must be able to swim 25 metres.

The Royal Yachting Association is the sport's governing body, and can supply a list of recognised sailing schools in Britain (tel: 0703-629962).

The smaller the classes the more individual (and effective)

the tuition, so look for a school that limits participants to a maximum of a dozen. Well-respected centres around the country include the Emsworth Sailing School (tel: 0705-210510), which operates from Chichester Harbour, Port Solent in Portsmouth and Lake Windermere. Their courses are aimed at all age groups and levels of expertise. A

three-day flotilla training course, for example, will cost you from £65 to £120 (accommodation is extra).

The Oysterworld Sailing School in Ipswich (tel: 0473-230109) offers two and five-day yachting and dinghy sailing courses, as well as sailing holidays to Belgium and Holland. A yachting weekend costs £112 all-in. This school unusually takes accompanied children from the age of nine.

At the Cumbria National Water Sports Training Centre on the Firth of Clyde in Scotland (tel: 0475-674666), a five-day dinghy sailing course costs around £185 per person all-in, and includes use of the extensive sports facilities when you're not sailing.

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TOURIST OFFICE

An ancient civilisation where funerals are celebrated

By Frederic Spotts

ONE of the greatest pleasures of travel comes from being able to combine a dramatic change of location with an authentic step back in time. The pleasure is all the greater if the place is scenically outstanding and the time change is one, not of mere centuries, but of millennia.

When the area is accessible, not just to rugged young trekkers prepared to rough it but also to ageing sybarites wanting air-conditioned transport, a western bed and bath a swimming pool, a bar and dining room, there you have a Shangri-La with all mod cons.

Such a place is Torajaland in the highlands of southern Sulawesi, the oddly shaped Indonesian island known in English as Celebes. Hidden away in this remote mountainous area is an ancient civilization, little changed over many centuries, and some of the most sublime scenery to be found in Asia.

By far the most curious feature of Torajan civilization — and what attracts most visitors — is its death cult and the related ceremonies and tombs. Although Christianity is now the predominant religion, it is only a thin veneer over traditional animist beliefs ancestor worship.

The Torajan is obsessed by death and, like the ancient Egyptian, believes you can take it with you. A funeral ceremony is therefore as much celebration as obsequy — in fact it is called a "festival of the dead" — and requires the sacrifice of the most precious of family's possessions, its farm animals, in the belief that they will join the dead person in the next life. Troths of relatives, friends and villagers from miles around attend the event, which lasts from three to 10 days.

The higher the caste of the deceased, the longer the ceremony and the larger the number of animals sacrificed. Although for a poor peasant, one water buffalo and six or eight pigs suffice, for the noble caste as many as 24 buffalo and 200 pigs are slaughtered. In James Frazer's *The Golden Bough* one can read about ancient blood sacrifices; Torajaland one can still actually witness them. The ceremony is an experience never to be forgotten, gruesome but



A typical Torajan village of ark-like houses decorated with patterns and animal figures.

In Indonesia

fascinating.

No one may be buried without such a ceremony. Until a family accumulates the necessary wealth — often a matter of years — the loved one is stored in a spare room at home. It is not uncommon when visiting a Torajan family to find that a deceased relative has been lying upstairs in a coffin for years awaiting burial.

The tombs themselves are renowned as the strangest in the world. The simplest are chiselled into huge stone boulders; most of these go back to the 18th century. More modern ones, shaped like a sort of balcony built much

on stilts in rice fields. Several others lie in deep limestone caves strewn with bones and skulls that have fallen from decayed coffins and inhabited by bats, and spiders the size of a large hand.

Odder yet are the infants' graves lodged in big trees, in the belief that the child's soul will grow with the tree. The most famous tombs are those immured in sheer cliffs, hundreds of feet above ground, so that they cannot be looted of jewellery and other precious objects. These are for persons of the highest caste, who are immortalized in wooden effigies, called *tau-tau*, placed in a family's status and wealth. Some houses are many hundreds of

years old, their palm-thatched roofs covered with vegetation and the whole structure bleached a venerable grey.

Travellers also come to Torajaland for another reason, to see the unique houses. These two-storey oblong structures look like earth-bound ships, prows high in the air. Their fronts and sides are often marvellously decorated with colourful and elaborate geometrical patterns and animal figures. Buffalo horns, displayed on a vertical column at the front, proclaim a family's status and wealth. Some houses are many hundreds of

"nautical" style has been maintained ever since.

Just a few miles off the narrow tourist track is a tropical land which one can explore with a rare sense of adventure. Rantepao, the main town of Torajaland, is a hub of trails and crude dirt roads that lead in every direction. Walks or treks can be arranged, on one's own or with a local guide, that last from half a day to several weeks. Not only is the landscape spectacular, but one passes through villages and rice fields where one sees scenes of daily life as it has been lived for more than a thousand years.

A trip to Torajaland starts in

Ujung Padang, the capital of the island on the southern coast. The interesting drive north takes about eight hours, allowing for stops along the way for lunch and refreshments. The initial 100 kilometres is a long flat coastal plain covered with rice fields; the road is often in sight of the sea and by the roadside are stalls festooned with large dried fish. Off in the distance lie steep jungle-covered limestone hills, described nearly 150 years ago by the naturalist A.R. Wallace: "Nowhere in (Indonesia) have I seen such gorges, chasms and precipices; in many parts there are vertical or even over-hanging

precipices 500ft or 600ft high, yet completely clothed with a tapestry of vegetation."

About half-way up the peninsula is Parepare, a convenient place for lunch. After that the road, which often runs parallel to the impressive Sado River, climbs into the Sinai mountains. The temperature plunges to the low 80s, the vistas become steadily more impressive and the trees and vegetation change. In addition to the ubiquitous banana and coconut tree now appear clove plantations, fields of cassava, tea trees and wild coffee bushes along with several types of pine.

This is an area of subsistence farming and across the vast distances are very few signs of habitation. Little roadside stands sell pink and yellow bags filled with sweets made of brown sugar and peanuts, sacks of salak (a small bland fruit covered in what looks to be brown snake-skin) and coffee.

The road enters Torajaland at the village of Sulabaran, marked by an elaborate gate in the shape of a miniature Torajan house. For most travellers the journey ends in Makate, the area's administrative centre, or in Rantepao, with its much wider range of accommodations and restaurants.

Travel Notes

- Hotels: in Ujung Padang, the best hotels are the almost new Maranu City Hotel and the Makassar Golden; Pondok Suanda Indah is a charming colonial style hotel. In Rantepao, the Toraja Cottages and Hotel Misilana are the most comfortable. There are dozens of simpler and cheaper places to stay. Indonesian Express (071-4914469) arranges bespoke itineraries.

- When to go: spring and autumn are probably the best times. The monsoon period is from November to March, but even at their worst the rains usually hold off until late afternoon.

- Language and conduct: in Torajaland few people outside the hotels speak English, but guides with adequate English can be found without difficulty. Extremely casual dress is considered unsightly, especially at funeral ceremonies.

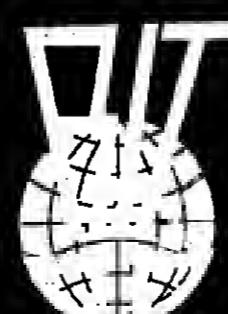
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Take the malaria jab before flying

By Charles S. Taylor

ATLANTA, (UPI): With the overseas travelling season just around the corner, federal health officials are warning people in the United States planning trips to countries where malaria is widespread to protect them-

selves against infection by using a new drug called mefloquine.

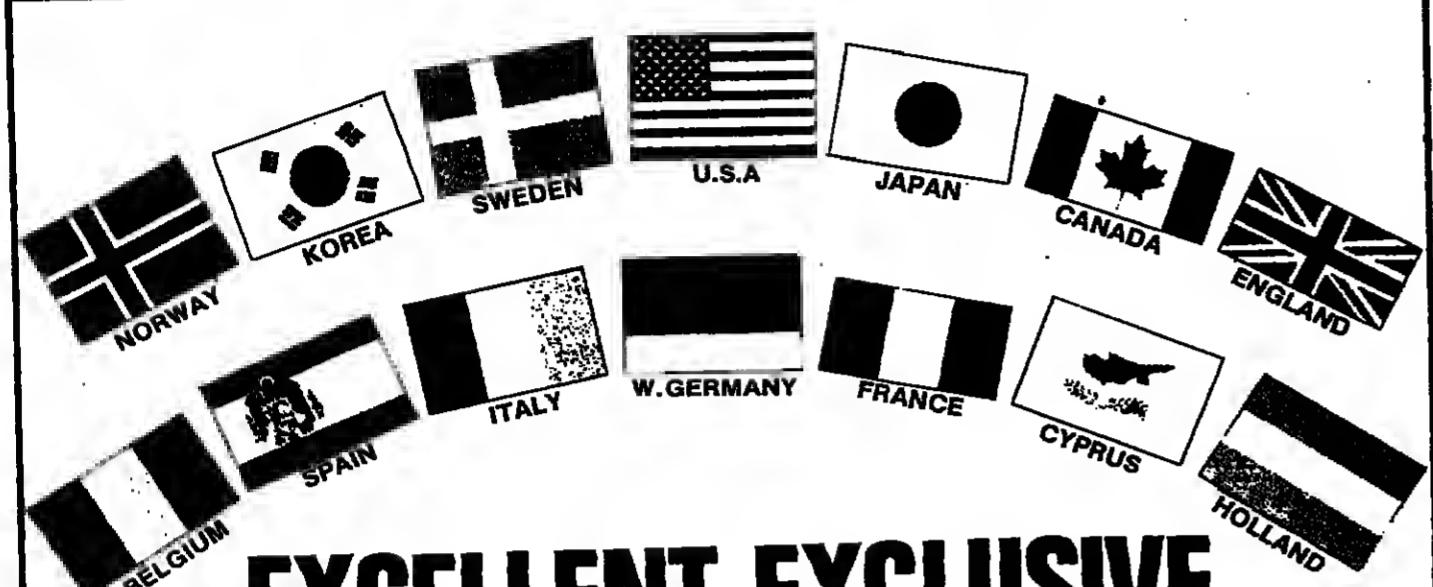
The federal Centres for Disease Control said cases of malaria among US travellers to areas in a wide equatorial belt round the globe has increased three-fold since 1980.

The new drug "is expected to

be highly effective" against malaria infections that have become resistant to other drugs, principally chloroquine, the CDC said.

Mefloquine, sold under the trade name Lariam by Hoffman-La Roche Inc. of Nutley, New

Jersey, was developed jointly. Until the early 1960s, chloroquine alone was an effective means of preventing malaria in sub-Saharan Africa, Central and South America, the Indian subcontinent and Southeast Asia — all areas where the infectious disease is common.

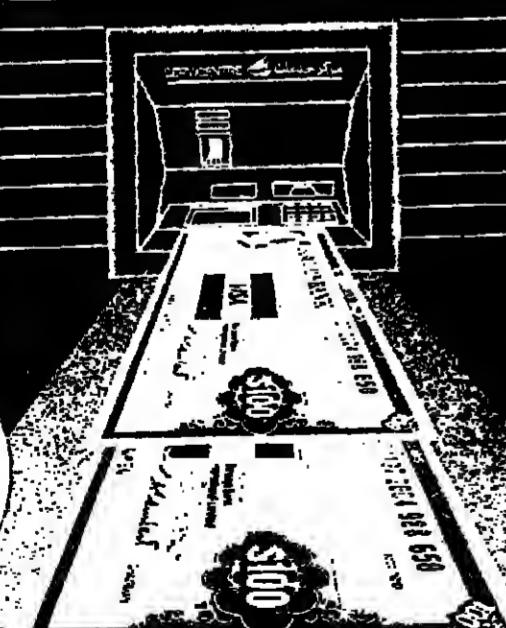


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THE GULF BANK

Romania

Doors open for tourists

By Peter D'Souza

Arab Times staff

JUST a year ago I had no idea what Romania was like. I always used to think that Romania was unexciting for a holiday and that it was a huge military camp serving the Warsaw Pact troops. But my perception changed when I recently visited Romania...

Romania has a peculiar charm, due to its warm hospitality, wide avenues, parks with luxuriant vegetation, new and modern residential districts. Several architectural styles, ranging from Byzantine to neoclassical, from Romanian folk art influences to skyscraper-like buildings, are harmoniously blending. The tourist interest is aroused by a great many museums with collections of high class theatres, by a rich and lofty cultural life, by priceless monuments of history and architecture. The leisure zone of the city, with picturesque forests and lakes, endowed with various tourist facilities, is the favourite recreation site for tourists.

Situated on the same latitude as northern Yugoslavia, Italy, France and the Japanese island of Hokkaido, Romania enjoys the benefit of four seasons a year, which partly accounts for the non-stop tourist movement in recent times. Visitors are enticed by winter snow, the explosive rebirth of nature in the spring, the matchless poetry of the sea and of the mountains in summer, the sweet aroma of a colourful autumn. Romania exhibiting every form of natural beauty features, from Black Sea to 2,544 metres altitude Moldoveanu peak in the Fagaras Mountains, the glacial lakes, the underground glaciers, the dozens of caves with galleries many kilometres long and the mud volcanoes arouse great interest.

One of the most beautiful tourist attractions is Poiana Brasov. Also called "The Sunny Clearing" or "The Pearl of the Carpathians", the Poiana Brasov resort is world-reputed both for its beauty and the modern con-



veniences and entertainment facilities it offers its guests. One Arab visitor who visited Poiana Brasov commented thus, "I think the beauty of Poiana Brasov is the maximum nature can offer mankind."

Located 189 km from Bucharest, the Romanian capital, and only 13 km from Brasov, Poiana Brasov lies at the foot of the Postavarul Massif, 1,026 m. above the Black Sea level. The average temperature in summer is about 17 degrees C and -3 degrees C in winter. The resort is open for 365 days and can accommodate 2,750 people in modern, deluxe and first class hotels, in villas or motels. The range of entertainment facilities is very comprehensive.

Romania welcomes about seven million foreign tourists annually. They have concluded tourist agreements and conventions with 30 countries. Accommodation facilities have been constantly increased during the last ten years. At present 300,000

By Rakhat Puri

India – a cultural experience

IT IS only when an Indian sees at one go the cultural expression of India in various media, styles, schools and manners, in fashions and forms as these changed and developed down the centuries, absorbing and metamorphosing influences as they came and went — it is only when an Indian sees it all placed together that he is apt to realize the wealth and vastness of his own tradition and of India's contribution to the world's heritage. Cultural awareness provides a person with his sense of social and individual self-identity.

At Loodoos' Hayward Gallery, Iodio bronzes and other items were put together during the Festival of India in Britain, in 1982, and the truth of this became plain enough. But it was at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, when an exhibition of Indian art and culture was organised and arranged by Stuart Cary Welch, covering some detail the period between 1300 AD and 1900 AD, that more appropriate idea of the range of Indian imagination emerged.

The exhibition lasted from September 14, 1983 to January 5, 1986. Simultaneously, in conjunction with the exhibition, a 478-page catalogue was published — India: Art and Culture 1300-1900. While a shadow of the exhibition, the catalogue nevertheless brought home the grandeur and dimension of the exhibition to those who were not able to go to the exhibition itself.

The catalogue, with permission from the Metropolitan Museum, was reprinted in 1988 by Gramma Corporation, Middletown, New Jersey, in association with Mapin Publishing Pvt Ltd of Chidambaram, Andhra Pradesh.

The contents of the volume are organised in chapters that deal with The Great Tradition, Tribe and Village, The Muslim Courts (ranging over the Delhi Sultanate, the Mughals and the Sultans of the Deccan), The Rajput World (which takes within its ken the Punjab plains and hills), and The British Period. It is of course true that what one saw in the exhibition at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York and what one sees in the 478 pages of the carefully brought out catalogue is but a minute and essentially inadequate glimpse of culture and way that is India. But it is enough to convey the width, breadth and wisdom the India represents — in the way that the complexities of time and space might be scrutinised in a grain of sand!

What is India? Most ancient peoples, writes Jean Le Mee in the introduction to his translation of the Rig Veda, have turned to precious or durable materials such as gold, silver, bronze, marble, onyx, or granite in an attempt to immortalise their achievements: "not so, however,

Romania has a peculiar charm visitors can be accommodated in the resorts on the Black Sea coast, in mountain and bathing resorts, and in all towns and districts of tourist interest throughout Romania...

cardiovascular system, breathing apparatus, and also dermatological, endocrinological and renal afflictions and in nutritional and vocational diseases.

In fifteen of the major tourist resorts, there are hotels equipped with treatment facilities of their own, and everywhere new treatment and control equipment has been introduced. Visitors can spend their time at clubs, sports halls and sports grounds, swimming pools, saunas, bowling and mini-golf alleys, mechanical games, etc.

Along with the usual dishes, special diet food is served under strict medical control. Together with a specific treatment, some original Romanian medicines are recommended, among them are Gerovital, Asilavital and Pell-Amar.

And, now due to recent developments, and a change of government, greater emphasis is being given to developing tourist facilities, health resorts and spas,



with the ancient Aryans. They turned to what may seem the most volatile and unsubstantial material of all — the spoken word — and out of this bubble or air fashioned a monument which more than thirty, perhaps forty, centuries later stands untouched by time or the elements. For, the Pyramids have been eroded by the desert wind, the marble broken by earthquakes, and the gold stolen by robbers, while the Veda remains, recited daily by an unbroken chain of generations, travelling like a great wave through the substance of the mind. This is indeed generous praise — and expression of wonder — doubtless warranted.

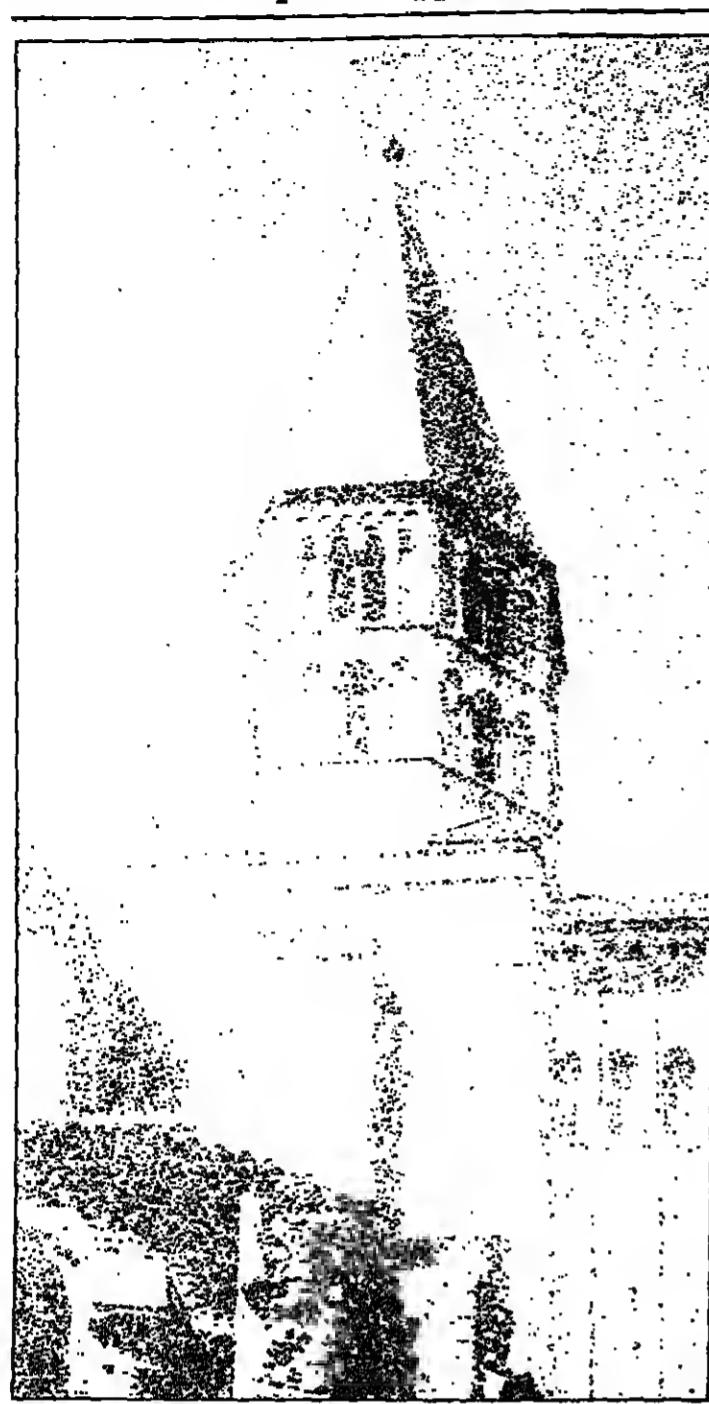
But the Indian mind in the last thirty or forty centuries did other things besides emitting bubbles of air and uttering memorable words: some of those things, from the last six centuries or so, are collected in the catalogue, and the question re-asserts itself: What is India? It's many (too many!) and varied people? It's many languages? Its numerous colours and colour combinations in forms stylized and spontaneous? Its culture of poverty, which has too often been mistaken in the presumptuous West as 'poverty of culture'? Its immense suffering, which was in its art transmuted sometimes to sorrow and to acceptance? Its paradoxes such as rampant cruelty co-existing with spiritual vision of the rarest kind, or a creative tendency in the midst of court intrigues and political instability? Its austerity of expression, exemplified in Panini's

grammatical rules which practically nothing has been added since he wrote it in eighteen octavo pages?

The luxuriance of expression, simile heaped on metaphor on image, as in Patanjali's commentary on Panini, in eight hundred octavo pages?

The catalogue provides a sampling of all this — the philosophy that is India, the people that is India, the language, arts and music that is India, the spiritual concern with time and timelessness that is India, the explored and unexplored spaces in the mind that is India. All this is there. The period from 1300 AD was a time when the position of Delhi in the Turk-Persian world was on the way to pre-eminence, a trend that began with Balban's succession to the throne after the intrigues and instability of Razia Begum's favourites. Delhi led the Turk-Persian world in form, design and fashion; artists and craftsmen were attracted to Delhi from Herat, Samarkand, Shiraz and Isfahan. By 1610 AD, Mughal miniature art had emerged distinctively, as is evident from such works as *Squires in a Plane Tree* by Abul Hasan and Mansur. India's Classical Age, with its emphasis on Sanskrit, was giving place to the Bhakti movement, notable especially for the hero of poetry and discourse in the commonly spoken language.

India: Art and Culture (1300-1900) by Stuart Cary Welch. Mapin Publishing, Poona, Ahmedabad.



The Tower of Cluny's abbey church.

France

Undulating landscape

WITH everyone trembling and expecting the end of the world at any moment, Europe must have been a singularly depressing place during the millennium year of 1000. The New Year celebrations in January 1001 must have been particularly heartfelt.

In a burst of unabated gratitude, the chroniclers tell us, mankind expressed new-found hope and confidence by causing the Earth to blossom with cherries like a meadow in spring.

And nowhere did it blossom more densely or enchantingly than amid the gently undulating and unspoiled landscape of the Maconnais, in southern Burgundy.

Apparently spared the hooliganism of church reformers and restorers, virtually every village of the region can boast a gem of unspoiled romanesque architecture, whether an edifice of astounding dimensions that serves as a landmark for miles, or a tiny chapel of endearing simplicity, huddled shyly behind cottages in a picturesquely state of decrepitude.

The Maconnais is an ideal spot for placid pottering: simply browsing from one village to another in the near certainty of stumbling upon something interesting. Or edible, of course. Because, should one's enthusiasm for ecclesiastical monuments begin to wane, it's comforting to know that the region's famed wines and cuisine are not only superb, but are astonishingly low-priced.

The going rate for hotels (about £12 for a double room is par) and accommodation (£85 a week for a four-person gite in high season) is pretty "down-market", too.

For visitors whose time is limited or who prefer a more or less systematic approach, it's not bad idea to use those important medieval cultural centres, Tournus and Cluny, as springboards for further exploration.

Rising above the broad expanse of the Saone, Tournus is a charmingly unkept little town which seems to have been designed as an ideally humble backdrop for the massive abbey of St Philibert. The rugged grandeur of the abbey's exterior does little to prepare one for the glories within.

On a bright day, entering the grotto, cavernous interior is like being struck blind. Then there is a slow awareness of luminosity and height, delicate salmon hues and monumental grace of the plain arched. The unknown architect achieved this marriage of great height and wide window openings by transverse tunnel vaulting: a brilliant solution to distributing the thrust of vaulted rooms. Curiously, this bold innovation never caught on.

If St Philibert is a difficult act to follow architecturally, Tournus offers an equivalent on the culinary front, namely Jean Daudoux's two-star Le Greuze (1 rue A. Thibaudet - 85511 Tournus - just west of the abbey). Food prepared with this sort of loving care is, of necessity, not cheap, but many would argue that such quality is worth every sou.

The only question, of course, is how much money you happen to be in command of at the given moment. A fair compromise between palace and pocket is the copious menu *bouguignon*, which embraces *escargots*, marvellous *terrine au foie de volaille* and *tranche de boeuf au bacon*.

Charolles. Proceeding southwest of Tournus, one is following in the footsteps of the monks of St Philibert who, in the 11th and 12th centuries, fanned out to establish places of worship in this district.

And in many places, the fruits of their pious handiwork are still there to be admired, seemingly untouched by the intervening centuries.

The gnarled wooden porch at Ozenay, the rough-hewn masonry of the interior at Farges, the elegant tower and curvaceous pointed arches at Uchizy — each is a marvel of directness and unornamented clarity.

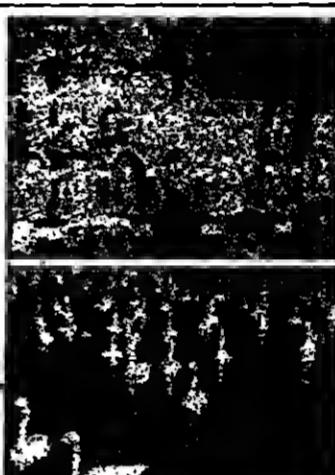
It's in these more humble products of Europe's first building boom that the true church devotee can feel at home. Undisturbed amid a unique bouquet of faint decay, harsh polish and candle-wax, a mood of silent reverie is never far away. And what could be more fascinating than the ever-changing play of light upon ancient walls, impregnated with centuries of village life and death?

Less peaceful, because better known, is the gaunt chapel at Brancion, whose almost ascetic symmetry and severity of form is only slightly leavened by some attractive frescoes. The neighbouring castle and splendid view make this site a favourite among the comparatively few tourists who stray into this otherwise blessedly ignored part of the world.

Information about the Maconnais can be obtained by writing to: Saône-et-Loire Tourisme, Hotel du département, 71025 Mâcon Cedex, France.



A detail from one of the magnificent frescoes in the priory at Berzé-la-Ville.



Gulf Air celebrates 40th year of success

1990 marks the 40th anniversary of Gulf Air — the national carrier of Bahrain, Oman, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates.

Established on March 24, 1950 under the name of Gulf Aviation Company, Gulf Air has today grown to become a major international airline flying from America to the Far East and Europe to India.

Regarded as the leading carrier in the Middle East, Gulf Air had a humble beginning, operating modestly with just one Anson Mark-I aircraft flying between Bahrain, Doha, Dhahran and Sharjah. Soon two more aircraft were added, a de Havilland and an Avro, but by 1951 the demand for the service was so high that, with an injection of capital from the British Overseas Aircraft Corporation (BOAC), the company added four more de Havillands and four Douglas DC3s to the fleet. BOAC thus became the major shareholder, a position it maintained until 1974.

From the start, the company has played a vital role in the development of aviation in the Gulf. Its importance was clearly established by the increasing number of passengers using its flights and the demand to lease aircraft, especially by oil companies operating in the Gulf.

The company continued to grow and prosper. Inevitably, as a result of its successful operation, it had to enter the jet age to keep pace with international aviation development, to meet the increasing demands on its network and to maintain the standards of service for the Gulf people.

In January 1970, Gulf Air purchased its first BAC-111 and leased VC10 aircraft from BOAC. In April of the same year the company inaugurated services between London, Bahrain, Abu Dhabi, Doha, Dubai and Muscat with the VC10s from BOAC.

In 1974 the governments of Bahrain, Oman, Qatar and UAE took a courageous step. They purchased all the shares in Gulf Air and established it as their national carrier. Since then the company has never looked back and has grown from a regional airline to a leading international air carrier in the world.

Today, its fleet of 97 Tristars, 8 Boeing 737s, and 6 Boeing 767-300ER cover an international network of 37 destinations, including New York, which was introduced in June '88 in joint venture with TWA, Baghdad, Iraq, which was re-introduced on 1st February, 1989, and Shiraz (Iran), after a break of eight years because of the Iran-Iraq war.

Other destinations served by the airline include Abu Dhabi, Ajman, Athens, Bahrain, Bangkok, Bombay, Cairo, Colombo, Damascus, Delhi, Dhahran, Doha, Doha, Dubai, Dacca-Salalah, Frankfurt, Fujairah, Hong Kong, Istanbul, Jeddah, Karachi, Khartoum, Kuwait, London, Manila, Muscat, Nairobi, Larnaca, Paris, Ras Al Khaimah, Ryadi, Salalah, Sanaa and Sharjah.

Gulf Air maintains one of the highest reputations in customer services and the company places top priority in the training of cabin staff services, hospitality, safety and first aid.

It places equal importance in its administration of the company, with particular attention towards nationalisation. Already, the company's top positions both at headquarters and outstations are held by nationals. The company also carries out intensive training programmes to upgrade staff in all the main functions of the airline — operations, engineering, finance, marketing and administration.

A substantial budget has also been allocated for training of national pilots and flight engineers. It is planned that nationals of the four owning states will be qualified to eventually run and maintain Gulf Air's fleet in the near future.

Gulf Air is fortunate in the quality and efficiency of its management. This is vital in order to realise the policy laid down by the board of directors — i.e. to maintain its excellent reputation with the world's major airlines and to be equipped to deal with the changes in the aviation industry.

1978

* Two Tristars enter full time service on international routes

* Computerized reservation systems introduced

1977

* VC10s and BAC-111 replaced by wide-bodied Tristars

* First advanced Boeing 737 purchased

1976

* Formation of light aircraft division based in Oman

* Far East destinations added to route network

1979

* Boeing 707 cargo route opened between Gulf/India/Europe

1980

* Routes to Delhi and Colombo opened

* New headquarters building opened in Bahrain

* Gulf Air receives British Safety Council Award

1981

* Ali Ibrahim Al Melki appointed chief executive

* Gulf Air receives British Safety Council Award for second year

1982

* Gulf Air voted "Best Airline to the Middle East" by readers of Executive Travel magazine

1983

* Gulf Air nominated "Best Airline to the Middle East for the second year

* First Tristar flight simulator commissioned in Bahrain

* Gulf Air starts all GCT capitals by opening new route to Riyadh

1984

* Boeing 747 introduced on Far East routes

* Gulf Air voted "Best Cargo Carrying Airline to the Middle East"

1985

* Falcon Business Class launched

* Sleepers introduced in First Class cabin

* Gulf Air voted "Best Cargo Carrying Airline in the Middle East" for second consecutive year

1986

* Gulf Air receives award from Rolls Royce to celebrate 10th anniversary of Gulf Air Tristar fleet

* New international route to Istanbul opened

1987

* New international route to Damascus opened in March

* New international route to Nairobi in Kenya and Dar-es-Salaam in Tanzania opened in October

* Gulf Air first airline to serve the newly opened Fujairah International Airport in UAE which opened at end October

* Gulf Air introduces Falcon Executive Club

* Gulf Air introduces new Departure Control System at Seeb Airport Muscat, Sultanate of Oman

1988

* Gulf Air flies to New York in a joint venture agreement with TWA

* Gulf Air's first Boeing 767-300ER arrives in Bahrain on June 20 in a record-breaking flight of 14 hours 32 minutes and setting a new mark for making the longest non-stop journey, in distance and duration, for this type of aircraft

1989

* Gulf Air resumes service to Baghdad, Iraq, on February 1, 1989

* Services to Shiraz, Iran, resumed May 1989

* Gulf Air's fleet of aircraft have all been extensively refurbished to create more elegant and sophisticated look

Japan

Exploring the unseen

THERE is more to Japan than meets the eye. Visitors seeing the crowds, the crush, and the "rabbit-hutch" houses, find what they were expecting to find on a tiny island nation with 120 million inhabitants. Often they do not see the land beyond; contrary to Western belief, Japan isn't all one immense conurbation — although it is fairly uninterrupted from Tokyo to Osaka along the Pacific coast. In fact, Japan is sixty per cent mountainous and extensively forested. As a consequence the human population is densely packed and there is a far greater area of unpopulated countryside than, for instance, in the UK, and also a great deal more wilderness and wildlife.

First timers to Japan visit the great temple cities — Kamakura, Kyoto and Nara — but any further exploration, whether in mountain villages or the lesser islands, will be rewarded. Japan's

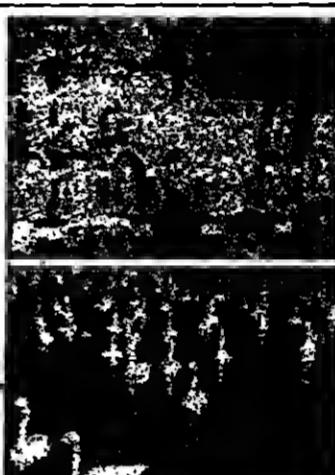
geographical contrasts are reflected in the climate. While the island of Hokkaido in the north is a crisp minus 20 deg C, more than 3,000 km further south in Okinawa, the temperature is closer to plus 20 deg C. In summer, temperatures soar to over 30 deg C at both ends of the archipelago. One week you can enjoy the superb winter skiing (downhill or cross-country) in Hokkaido — where folk from Hong Kong come for their winter sports — and the next you can lie in the sun on a white coral-sand beach with pineapples, palms and giant tropical tree ferns around you. And for an away-from-it-all diving holiday, at any time of the year, there are the Bonin or Ogasawara Islands — tiny clusters of green set in the Pacific 1,000 km south of Tokyo.

No traveller can ignore the powerful effect that nature has on day-to-day life in Japan through the great variety of its six seasons. In spring, in the heart of town, cherry blossoms brighten the shopping malls, while in autumn you see the paint-box colours of the mountainsides beyond the cities. The goods in the shops — from clothing to food — change according to the seasons, and buying is the national pastime.

Wherever you travel you will discover that fashion is the rule from sea-level to mountain top, cityscape to country village. Being stylish is vital. Five or six days a week are for working, and one day at the weekend — Sunday — is for shopping: for buying the latest items which enable one to keep up with the Tanakas next door. High tech, high fashion and the highlife seem to be the popular dreams. Yet "woody life" (one of many delightful Japish terms), which involves living in a hand-built bungalow

throughout the great variety of its six seasons. In spring, in the heart of town, cherry blossoms brighten the shopping malls, while in autumn you see the paint-box colours of the mountainsides beyond the cities. The goods in the shops — from clothing to food — change according to the seasons, and buying is the national pastime.

Japan's Buddhist — and particularly Shintoist — philosophy lends itself to today's lifestyle. Religious obsessions with cleanliness and newness seem to translate into an intensity of consumerism unparalleled elsewhere in the world.



Above: memorial to children; bottom: whooping swans crowd Japan's lakes

cabin, is also a part of the dream, and whole magazines are devoted to it.

Japan's Buddhist — and particularly Shintoist — philosophy lends itself to today's lifestyle. Religious obsessions with cleanliness and newness seem to translate into an intensity of consumerism unparalleled elsewhere in the world.

Above: maples in autumn, like tongues of flames, attract millions of visitors. Bottom: wind sculpts the snow and turns reeds into dried instruments

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The Egyptians during a training session. (Reuter wirephoto)

World Cup statistics

ROME, June 8. (AP): Antonio Carbajal probably hates World Cup statistics.

Mexico's former long-time goalie played in five World Cups, 104 international matches and won three Mexican championships. But at the World Cup, he is remembered simply as the man who lost the most tournament matches.

Carbajal is the loser in a numbers game that always accompanies the World Cup. He played in 11 cup matches and was on the losing side in eight while conceding 25 goals. And numbers never lie, or so the saying goes. Perhaps they just don't add up.

Wolfgang Overath never basked in the limelight, but now shines on Argentina's Diego Maradona. However, statistics show the West German is the winningest player in World Cup history. He only scored three goals in three World Cups, but West Germany won 15 of the 19 matches he played.

In an increasingly number-crunching world, soccer's most prestigious tournament provides sports statisticians with a usually rich bounty.

Consider the statistical gold mine at this year's tournament, where 528 players on 24 teams will contest 52 matches in 31 days. To get the 24 finalists, 110 national teams played 312 qualifying matches and scored 732 goals.

Although the tournament began only today, statisticians have been hard at work for months generating those little-known facts and figures.

Organisers say that so far they have sold 92 per cent of the 2.6 million tickets available for the matches in 12 Italian cities. There will be at least 104 hours of live television broadcasts of the games over 148 networks to viewers in 116 countries.

The number of estimated viewers for the games is staggering. Organisers who at first predicted 15 billion now casually kick about a figure of 25 billion. Never mind that the planet's human population is only about 5 billion. The estimates are cumulative.

Die-hard fans will want to know there are 36 international referees and five Italian linesmen. Fans afraid of dying may want to know there will be a total of 111 doctors, 135 nurses, 677 stretcher-bearers and 89 ambulances on duty at the 12 stadiums.

The oldest player in this year's tournament is England's 40-year-old Peter Shilton. The youngest is 20-year-old Bryan Roy of Holland, who already is three years older than Pele when he helped Brazil win the title in 1958. Argentina's Ricardo Bochorno at 42 became the oldest player on a championship team when his country won in 1986.

The United States, with an average age of 24.2, has the youngest team at the World Cup finals and Ireland the oldest with an average age of 28.9.

And so it goes.

Soccer statisticians also can tell you that the most common surname, shared by six players on the United Arab Emirates team, is Mubarak. The least common may be subject to hot debate, but Mubarak is so popular that one Emirates player has it for both his first and last name.

The numbers also show the highest margin of victory in World Cup play is nine goals, a feat accomplished by two teams in three games. Hungary beat El Salvador 10-1 in 1982 and South Korea 9-0 in 1954. Yugoslavia defeated Zaire 9-0 in 1974.

Louis Laurent scored the first World Cup goal on July 13, 1930, when France beat Mexico 4-0 in Montevideo. England's Bryan Robson scored the fastest goal, tallying 27 seconds into a match against France on June 15, 1982.

Naturally not even the number crunchers can tell you who will score the first goal in Italy. But they can tell you that the first scorers in each of the six first-round groups will receive 700 bottles of selected, aged Abruzzi wine from the region's wine sellers.



Shubair aims for career in Europe

PALERMO, June 8. (Reuter): Egyptian goalkeeper Ahmed Shubair is planning to use the World Cup finals as a passport to a career in one of European soccer's top professional leagues.

The 30-year-old now combines goalkeeping duties with running his own marble and cement firm but knows that good performances at the tournament starting today could bring him a lucrative offer to pack his bags and join a European club.

"The World Cup is important for me to make a name in Europe but it is more important for me to do well," he said.

Egypt, appearing in the finals for the first time in 56 years, are rated rank outsiders in Group F against

the Netherlands, England and Ireland but Shubair believes they will give a good account of themselves.

"We have prepared very hard and played around 12 internationals this year. I know we have a very good defence and I'm confident in them," he said.

Egypt's defence is one of their strong points, having been breached only twice in eight qualifiers.

Shubair, a tall, wiry figure, deserves much of the credit for that record. Described by one Egyptian soccer writer as "the only man the team cannot afford to be without in Italy," he has already attracted the attention of European clubs.



Colombia's Carlos Valderrama does stretching exercises during practice. (Rauher wirephoto)

Austria take on Italy

Polster one of the best: Vicini



Toni Polster
Beckenbauer may play extra defender

W. Germany seek good start

MILAN, June 8. (Reuter): West Germany aim to break their habit of poor World Cup starts when they meet Yugoslavia in their opening Group D match on Sunday.

"We've had problems in nearly all of our World Cup starts," team chief Franz Beckenbauer said, casting his mind back to 1966 and his first World Cup as a player for the last convincing opening win.

West Germany usually improve as the tournament progresses, and their record in the last six World Cups of winning the trophy once, appearing in three other finals and one semifinal is second to none.

But they have been slow starters. After they thrashed Switzerland 5-0 in their 1966 opener they eked out meagre victories over unrated Morocco and Chile in the next two tournaments and have not won since.

Draws in 1978 and 1986 were at least better than the Nadir of 1982 when, against all the odds, they were beaten 2-1 by Algeria in Spain.

"Perhaps it's a good thing we've got very strong opponents—supposedly the strongest—in the first match," Beckenbauer said.

Concentration

"We must concentrate and be motivated 100 per cent. If we're weaker opponents we might be in danger of underestimating them a bit. We will have to play with full concentration."

Yugoslavia were the first country to win a place in the final tournament alongside hosts Italy and holders Argentina, both automatic qualifiers.

They have plenty of skill, with playmaker Dragan Stojkovic and the more attacking Dejan Savicevic outstanding, but Yugoslav sides have often in the past flattered to deceive—looking good but failing to deliver when it mattered.

West Germany are always competitive and boast players with vast experience at the highest level. Beckenbauer has been impressed with the commitment of his men and believes there are no better teams in the tournament.

Three of Beckenbauer's trumps—captain Lothar Matthaeus, defender Andreas Brehme and striker Jürgen Klinsmann—will relish playing in the San Siro Stadium, home of their club Inter Milan.

Central defender Juergen Kohler has been ruled out by a knee muscle injury but Beckenbauer's main selection puzzle has revolved around creative midfielder Pierre Littbarski.

Beckenbauer may opt for an extra defender, bringing in Stefan Reuter and Thomas Berthold at the

would like a good start," Italian manager Azeglio Vicini said.

"But the fans must remember that in Spain (in 1982) we drew all our first round matches and went on to win."

Italy's chief fear is the attacking skills of Toni Polster, supported up front by either Andreas Ogris or Gerhard Rodax.

Polster scored 33 goals for his Spanish club Sevilla last season and is well aware of the strengths and weaknesses of the Italians after playing for Torino.

"I consider him one of the best strikers in Europe," Vicini said. "He has improved a lot this year."

At 26, Polster is one of the veterans of the Austrian squad, but Hickersberger says their relative lack of experience is countered by their enthusiasm.

"They are hungry for the ball ... and they recover quickly after matches," he said.

"Our recent run of good results has been just what was needed to give them confidence,"

he added.

Austria beat European champions the Netherlands 3-2 in Vienna last week. In May they drew 1-1 with Argentina and in March they beat Spain 3-2 in Malaga.

But at their last meeting in Vienna in March 1989, Italy's famous defence locked out the Austrians and the visitors came home with a 1-0 victory.

Italy can also rely on the skills of one of the world's greatest sweepers in AC Milan captain Franco Baresi.

Up front Italy's hopes rest with Sampdoria's Gianluca Vialli. Although the 25-year-old has been suffering from a painful calf muscle, he has been declared fit and is keen to prove himself after a year-long international goal drought.

Hickersberger, though playing his tactical cards close to his chest, is likely to use Robert Pecl to mark Vialli. Kickoff Saturday: 10 pm (Kuwait time).



Juergen Kohler: ruled out by injury

back, with Uwe Bein in midfield. This would leave no room for Littbarski.

Yugoslav team chief Ivica Osim is likely to deploy the side which took the field against the Netherlands in Zagreb last Sunday. They lost 2-0 but were far from outclassed by the European champions.

The Yugoslavs were also beaten by Spain eight days earlier but Osim was happy with the way his team played in both games.

He felt Yugoslavia's key match will be against Colombia, potentially their main rivals for second place, and fears the impact of losing the opening game.

Kickoff Saturday: 6pm (Kuwait time).

Romania aim to overcome injury crisis

BARI, June 8. (Reuter): Romanian manager Emerich Jenei hopes his country's revolution will inspire his team to overcome an injury crisis in their first Group B World Cup match against the Soviet Union tomorrow.

Forward Florin Raducioiu and midfielder Ioan Sabau are doubtful starters, first choice defenders Dan Petrescu and Stefan Iovan are already out of the tournament with injuries and star midfielder Gheorghe Hagi is suspended for the first match.

The Soviets will be without mid-fielder Alexei Mikhailevich but they say they have no other injury problems and look strong contenders in a group that also includes Argentina and Cameroon.

But Jenei says the revolution last December that toppled communist dictator Nicolae Ceausescu has transformed his players for Romania's first appearance in the World Cup finals since 1970.

"Since the revolution morale is 100 per cent better, the mental attitude for life and the game is better and you can expect to see that in the first match," Jenei said in the southern Italian city of Bari where tomorrow's match takes place.

"The power of the team is collectivity. Hagi is out going to play. But it's the same problem as (Soviet coach Valery) Lobanovsky faces because Mikhailevich cannot play."

Jenei is still looking for someone to fill the gap left by Hagi, the "Maradona of the Carpathians." Raducioiu has twisted his left ankle and is less likely to play than Sabau who has strained a leg muscle.

Lobanovsky also has a hole to fill in midfield. Mihailochevko, injured against Israel last month, was his team's powerhouse and will miss the whole tournament.

"We are going to be nervous but I reckon there will be plenty of butterflies in the other changing room too," Gansler said.

"The point is this 40-year thing doesn't mean anything to my guys. Most of them have qualified for the World Cup at their very first attempt. So there

is no sense of failure from the past for them."

The Czechoslovaks are a very strong defensive side, marshalled by their versatile libero Jozef Chovanec.

But with tougher games to come against hosts Italy and Austria, they know they will have to show their attacking qualities and secure a convincing victory to improve their chances of reaching the second round.

"The first game of the tournament is always very important," Venglos said at his team's hotel in the small town of Montecatini, west of Florence.

"We are determined we will have the right mental attitude and be motivated to win."

The Americans' key players are goalkeeper Tony Meola and captain Mike Windischmann, who are certain to be kept busy on Sunday.

The US have kept a low profile in the past week in their secluded camp at the west coast resort of Tiverton. But they have looked relaxed despite the presence of heavily-armed police.

"There is a relaxed mood here. We can't afford to be overwhelmed," Windischmann said. "On our day we can compete with anyone." Kickoff Sunday: 6pm (Kuwait time).



A vendor in Beirut offers flags of participating nations for sale. (Reuter wirephoto)

Lebanon swept by Cup fever

BEIRUT, June 8. (Reuter): World Cup fever is sweeping Lebanon, offering a month of respite from civil war as gunmen turn to the soccer field from the battlefield.

Flags of nations taking part in the competition opening in Italy today flutter alongside the emblems of Lebanese factions from shell-pocked buildings and shattered shop windows.

Convoys of cars honk their way through rubble-strewn streets with fans of rival soccer nations waving and cheering.

"A Great British football manager once said: People who say football is a matter of life and death are fools. It is much more serious than that," said Nabil Fakhri, a supermarket manager in Muslim west Beirut.

"In Lebanon, his words could never be more accurate. For many Lebanese, the game of football symbolises life, in its thrills and

agonies," he added.

Posters of soccer superstars are glued to walls, in some places close to pictures of gunmen killed in 15 years of civil war.

"You might not take sides in the Lebanese conflict, but you have to be either with West Germany, Holland, Italy, Brazil or Argentina in the World Cup," said Eric Hayek, a supporter of Italy and resident of the devastated Ain El Roumanieh area.

Advertisers and sponsors are excited as the fans, offering them promotion chances in a country suffering from a soaring inflation.

Local television stations compete in drawing spectators and advertisers by broadcasting special World Cup programmes and competitions. Two stations plan live coverage of most of the Cup's 52 matches.



Brazilian TV

RIO DE JANEIRO, June 8. (Reuter): The most important event in the world last week was not the superpower summit, not on Brazilian television anyway. For across the world in Asia, Italy, the Brazil World Cup soccer squad was in training. In a week when the team did not even play a match, George Bush and Mikhail Gorbachev received less than half the coverage of Brazil's soccer superstars.

Cup security

GENOA, June 8. (Reuter): Police yesterday banked on an elaborate security operation to keep the ancient city of Genoa free of spectator violence at the World Cup.

Month's grace

ROME, June 8. (Reuter): Squatters and tent-dwellers in Rome are enjoying a month's grace before being thrown out of their homes—thanks to the World Cup.

Irish fan

PALERMO, June 8. (Reuter): Irish soccer fan Gerard Murphy is missing pleasure with pleasure. He is getting married in Italy tomorrow and taking his bride to Ireland's opening World Cup match against England.

Stadium cleared

ROME, June 8. (Reuter): Italy's Interior Minister Massimo D'Alessandro yesterday overrode objections from his own safety inspectors yesterday for the second time this week and cleared a World Cup stadium as fit for use during the finals.

Yugoslav fan

SASSUOLO, Italy, June 8. (Reuter): Yugoslav fan Dan Tanas spent around \$30,000 and made eight transatlantic trips to watch his beloved national team qualify for the World Cup finals.

Euro-soccer United and Villa get entry forms

LONDON, June 8. (Reuter): English clubs Manchester United and Aston Villa have been invited to enter next season's European Cup Winners' and UEFA Cup competitions, the English Football Association (FA) said yesterday. The FA requested the entry forms from UEFA last month and have now passed them on to the two clubs in a move described by an FA spokesman as "as encouraging as you can get."

The forms must be returned to the game's governing body in Europe by June 30, which should mean they will be at UEFA headquarters in time for the preliminary round draws.

FA spokesman David Barber said yesterday: "It is not cut and dried yet. We still have to keep our fingers crossed that there is no trouble from English fans at the World Cup."

"But when we asked UEFA for the forms, the first time we have done this in four years, they sent them back to us without any query. Nothing is guaranteed, but this is as encouraging as you can get."

Significantly, League champions Liverpool were not sent entry forms for the European Cup.

Tragedy
The ban on English clubs in the three European club competitions followed the Hysel tragedy and part of UEFA's verdict was to keep Liverpool out of Europe for an extra three years.

Liverpool will be hoping that should United and Villa compete in Europe next season, and there is no trouble from English fans, they will have their three-year extra ban reduced and become eligible for entry into one of the competitions for 1991-92.

Barber added: "In the previous years we did not bother to request entry forms from UEFA. This year we felt we had a better chance of getting some of our clubs accepted so we asked for the entry forms."

"That is the only change really, that we have requested the forms and passed them on as we used to do before 1985. But obviously everyone concerned is hoping that there will be no trouble in Italy and that UEFA will accept the entries and put the two clubs into the draw."

Lewis wins 100m race

HOUSTON, Texas, June 8. (Reuter): Olympic Star Carl Lewis was a half-second off his world record last night as he won a 100-metre race in 10.42 seconds in his first competition in almost nine months.

"He didn't look like someone who was ready to compete in the national championships," said a coach who watched the low-key meeting at Rice University in Houston.

The six-time Olympic champion has missed several months' training this winter while working on his biography and has said he is not ready for the US Championships next week.

Joe Douglas, Lewis' business manager, said on Wednesday that Lewis was considering a proposal by the Athletics Congress to take one long jump or run one preliminary race at the championships in Norwalk, California as a means of qualifying for the Goodwill Games in Seattle in July.

A final decision is not expected before early next week, but a friend of Lewis said he was not likely to compete.

Lewis and his coach, Tom Tellez, previously had said Lewis had missed too much training time this winter while working on his biography to compete at the national championships. But Douglas said the latest offer was being seriously considered.

Australia, France set for first Test

Fouroux selects young side



France's Henry Sanz, with the ball, passes during training today. (Reuter wirephoto)

SYDNEY, June 8. (Reuter): A classic sporting duel between brawn and speed has turned the first rugby union Test between Australia and France into one of the most intriguing internationals in recent years.

French coach Jacques Fouroux sees the Test as the first step in his building programme for the 1991 World Cup and has selected a young side featuring perhaps the largest and tallest pack in French history.

Bob Dwyer, who has pledged to beat France 3-0 in the series, is a coach whose reputation for innovation and tactical skill will be fully tested tomorrow.

A defeat at the Sydney Football Stadium would weaken the already shaky position of Dwyer, whose contract to coach Australia until the World Cup is up

for review later this year. Dwyer has instructed his players to avoid line-outs whenever possible, to keep the ball alive to tire out the Leviathan French pack and concentrate on winning quality second phase ball.

"I'd imagine that they'll try to wear us down, especially with them being so big and physical," Dwyer said. "Obviously the line-out is their strength... we just have to try to counteract it as best we can by being very competitive."

Fouroux said he had picked big men to counteract the power shown by the Australian forwards in their 32-15 defeat of France in the first Test in France last November. France won the second test 25-19 in a brilliant display of running rugby.



Eddery banned

EPSOM, England, June 7. (Reuter): Double Derby hero Pat Eddery was handed a three-day ban by the Epsom stewards yesterday for excessive use of the whip.

Eddery, the English champion, rode Quest for Fame to win the Epsom Derby on Wednesday after winning the French version of the race on Sangamore on Sunday. But the stewards decided Eddery over-used his whip when pushing Lyndsey Lee into a dead-heat with Maisons des Fruits in a five furlong (1 km) sprint yesterday.

Eddery will be banned from racing from June 16-18, just before the start of the Royal Ascot meeting in a desparate finish in which a less than a length covered the first six horses home. Eddery hit the winner at least 15 times, although the horse was not marked. The maximum is 10. Above, Eddery on Quest for Fame after his win on Wednesday. (Reuter wirephoto)

First Division Swindon demoted to Third Division

LONDON, June 8. (Reuter): English League club Swindon Town were demoted to the Third Division for financial irregularities yesterday only 10 days after clinching First Division soccer for the first time in their history.

The news was announced by English Football League secretary David Dent

after eight hours of inquiry by a three-man commission.

Swindon chairman Gary Herbert pleaded guilty on behalf to 36 charges brought by the league, 35 of them dealing with irregular payments to eight players going back to 1985.

Herbert looked stunned and said:

"We are all devastated but we must keep calm. This has happened and we must face up to it."

Swindon are considering an appeal. It is only the third time in English soccer history a League club has been demoted. Peterborough United and Port Vale were also relegated again

for irregular payments to players.

Last month Swindon won promotion to the First Division with a 1-0 victory at Wembley in the Second Division play-off final against Sunderland.

The club now face a fight to keep

the first team. The League has to decide who replaces Swindon in the First Division and who makes way in the third.

It was previous manager Lou Macari who set Swindon on the road to success before his move to West Ham in July last year.

But he and ex-chairman Brian Hillier have since been found guilty of being on Swindon in 1988 to lose a Cup tie.

The demotion will be a heavy blow to Ardiles, currently on a six-week holiday in Argentina.

Portland edge Detroit

Trail Blazers tie series



Trail Blazers' Terry Porter (left) and Wayne Cooper celebrate their team's victory. (Reuter wirephoto)

Berger hungry for first win

Senna faces tough race

MONTREAL, June 8. (Reuter): Ayrton Senna hopes to erase one of last season's bitter memories when he returns to Montreal for Sunday's Canadian Grand Prix motor race.

Last year, the Brazilian had certain victory snatched from him at the rain-swept circuit Gilles Villeneuve when his McLaren led less than three laps from the finish, costing him the overall lead in a championship he went on to lose.

But a win on Sunday would put the overall world championship leader well ahead of his rivals.

Lead

Senna has already won two of the four races so far this season and has a six-point lead over Austrian McLaren team mate Gerhard Berger as the Formula One circus crosses the Atlantic for rounds five and six in Canada and Mexico.

He has made up for disappointing showings in Brazil and Imola by winning on the streets of Phoenix and at Monte Carlo, where he raced to a thrilling one-second victory over Jean Alesi on May 27.

Senna faces his toughest challenge from Berger who is hungry for his first victory since leaving Ferrari for the British-based team. The Austrian has finished second twice and third once in his last three races.

While Senna wants to forget last year's race here, the Williams team still savour the day when Belgian Thierry Boutsen and Italy's Riccardo Patrese scored a one-two win after emerging from the floods that

swept most of the field off the track.

Williams also want to recapture the momentum gained by Patrese's San Marino win at Imola in May as they try to keep the 1990 championship from becoming another all-McLaren duel.

Boutsen has added a third, fourth and fifth place finish to his teammate's Imola win to put Williams second in the constructors' championship on 18 points.

But the Renault-powered team face an uphill battle in their effort to overhaul the Honda-powered McLarens, which have already compiled 38 points.

Also anxious to get back on the winning track in Montreal is the Ferrari team of world champion Alain Prost of France and Briton Nigel Mansell.

Ferrari have yet to demonstrate the reliability necessary to seriously challenge McLaren despite Prost's extremely satisfying victory in Brazil in March.

Prepares

But Mansell expects the Ferraris, with their powerful V-12 engines, to fare better on Montreal's 4.39-km island race course than they did on the slow, twisting Monte Carlo street circuit where both cars raced with gearbox problems.

"We feel more confident about the rest of the season," Mansell said.

Alesi, Tyrrell's daring young French driver whose stock rises with each race, is third in the drivers' championship on 13 points as he prepares for his Canadian debut.

Cash defaults, Edberg and Lendl impress

LONDON, June 8. (Reuter): Pat Cash was disqualified for being late at the Beckenham grass court tournament yesterday, as top seeds Ivan Lendl and Stefan Edberg enjoyed useful Wimbledon warm-ups.

Lendl beat the little-known South African Royce Deppé 6-2 6-3 in 50 minutes while Edberg was even more impressive in defeating Australian John Fitzgerald 6-2 6-2.

Ex-Wimbledon champion

Cash was defaulted after he failed to turn up on time for a delayed second round match against Edberg.

"Cash knew that we were starting the centre court programme at noon and that the unfinished match ahead of him might not last very long," tournament referee Sultan Gangji said.

"He was called at 12.35 and I gave him 15 minutes according to the rules. But he was still not here and I had no option but to default him."

Cash, ranked only 143 in the world after a year out with a ruptured Achilles tendon, had been waiting for two days to play the rain-delayed match with Edberg.

Discover

The Australian eventually arrived at 1310 local time and was clearly upset to discover he had been defaulted.

Cash's coach Ian Barclay explained that they had not expected the first centre court match to finish before 1300 and had been held up in traffic.

Edberg, relieved of the need to play twice in a day following rain earlier in the week, was pleased to beat grass-court specialist Fitzgerald.

"I think I have a good chance of winning the Wimbledon this year," said the Swede. "I have been in the final for the past two years. I'm in pretty good shape. My game is well suited to grass and by the time I have played a few matches here and at Queen's club next week I shall be ready for Wimbledon."

Lendl said: "I'm very pleased with my serve. I made more first serves today and had more bite.

Scandinavian Open

DROTNINGHOLM, Sweden, June 8. (Reuter): Britain's Howard Clark sank a 60-foot eagle chip shot at the first hole and went on to post a seven-under-par 65 for a share of the lead as the Scandinavian Open golf tournament began at Drottningholm yesterday.

Insurance Vacancies in Saudi Arabia

SPORTS BRIEFS

Baseball games

NEW YORK, June 8. (Reuter): Results of Major League baseball games played yesterday:

National League	
Montreal	3 St Louis
Pittsburgh	5 N.Y. Mets
Philadelphia	3 Chicago Cubs
Cincinnati	6 Houston Astros
American League	
Seattle	2 Chicago W.S.
California	2 Kansas City
	royals
Baltimore	5 Milwaukee
Boston	3 N.Y. Yankees
Detroit	8 Cleveland
Toronto	10 Minnesota
Texas	3 Oakland

Title fight

PATERSON, New Jersey, June 8. (AP): A superior court judge has cleared the way for a heavyweight title fight between champion Buster Douglas and Evander Holyfield by rejecting a request that would have prevented promoters from offering bids to stage the fight.

Dent fired

NEW YORK, June 8. (Reuter): The once-proud New York Yankees, the club with the worst record this season in Major League baseball, fired manager Buckie Dent on Wednesday and replaced him with Stump Merrill of their Columbus Minor League team.

Olajuwon out

NEW YORK, June 8. (Reuter): Patrick Ewing of the New York Knicks muscled the Houston Rockets' Akeem Olajuwon out of the starting lineup at centre on the 1990 all-NBA team, the National Basketball Association announced on Wednesday.

Mckoy rejected

LONDON, June 8. (Reuter): Mark McKoy, Canada's former Commonwealth high hurdles champion, has been refused admission to the Cardiff Athletic Club in Wales because he admitted under oath to taking drugs.

Jersey drive

BANGKOK, June 8. (Reuter): Thailand's premier says he will give his old shirts to the poor and has appealed to fellow golfers to join his "Jersey drive".

Marijuana banned

BARCELONA, Spain, June 8. (Reuter): Marijuana, described by the International Olympic Committee as damaging for youth and a danger to world peace, was banned on Wednesday from the Olympic Games, IOC officials said.

Year's best

MILAN, Italy, June 8. (AP): World champion Natalia Grigorieva set the best 1990 world performance in the 100-metre hurdles Wednesday night as she led the Soviet women's team to victory in Milan's eight-nation track and field meet.

Hart Trophy

TORONTO, June 8. (Reuter): Mark Messier, who led the Edmonton Oilers to their fifth Stanley Cup in seven years, was named on Wednesday the winner of the Hart Trophy as the National Hockey League's Most Valuable Player in the closest voting ever.

America's Cup

SAN DIEGO, California, June 8. (Reuter): Women could be at the helm for the first time in the next America's Cup defender series prior to the May 1992 competition for yachting's most prestigious prize. Two Cup syndicates may be skipped.

Western Open

OAK BROOK, Illinois, June 8. (Reuter): Loren Roberts and Canadian Ray Stewart shot exceptional rounds of seven-under-par 65 to share the first-round lead at the \$1 million Western Open golf tournament on the difficult Builic National Golf Club course yesterday.

Scandinavian Open

DROTNINGHOLM, Sweden, June 8

Agassi and Gomez in Open final

PARIS, June 8. (AP): Andre Agassi beat Jonas Svensson in four sets Friday to join veteran Andres Gomez in the final of the French Open.

The No. 3 seed Agassi topped the unseeded Swede, 6-1, 6-4, 3-6, 6-3, in a match delayed by the start and interrupted briefly by rain in the second game.

Gomez of Ecuador, ignited by a run of seven games, flew past Austria's Thomas Muster, 7-5, 6-1, 7-5 in the other semifinal.

Agassi had no trouble with Svensson at the start, racing to a 3-0 lead with brutal forehands and precise passing shots.

Svensson held his serve for the only time in the first set in the fourth game then Agassi finished out the set, 6-3. He raced to a 4-0 lead in the second with overpowering ease.

Svensson closed to 5-4 but Agassi went up a break and appeared to be headed to an easy victory. But Svensson refused to hold and took five for the next seven games to force the match into a fourth set.

But Agassi came back and won up 3-0. Svensson again came back to close to 4-3.

However in the eighth game, Svensson made a pair of backhand errors to give Agassi a chance to break.

Svensson attempted a serve-and-volley but popped the ball long to have Agassi serve for the match.

Agassi controlled the game, getting a match point when Svensson hit a service return long.

The match ended when Agassi came in behind his serve and drilled a forehand into the corner that Svensson couldn't handle.

(Also see Page 31)

Kiwis slide to 171 for 5

NOTTINGHAM, England, June 8. (Reuters): Paceman Phil DeFreitas earned an overtime bonus to round off a worthy display by England's bowlers in the first cricket Test against New Zealand yesterday.

His last-gasp dismissal of key batsman Martin Crowe sent New Zealand sliding to 171 for five at close of play.

DeFreitas, having performed well with no luck, gained his reward eight minutes from the end of the extra hour added on because of four rain delays.

Crowe, the one New Zealander to keep England at bay with any confidence, hit a six and five hours in a typically stylish 59.

But when he tried an ambitious cut, his stumps were shattered and England celebrated the wicket they most wanted.

Crowe's departure capped a disappointing day for New Zealand. Having somewhat surprisingly chosen to bat first in overcast conditions, they struggled from the outset.

Devon Malcolm picked up two wickets while Gladstone Small, the third member of Graham Gooch's Caribbean-born pace trio, sent back captain John Wright before lunch for eight.

Scoreboard

NEW ZEALAND	
T. Franklin b Malcolm	33
J. Wright c Stewart b Small	8
A. Jones c Stewart b Malcolm	39
M. Crowe b DeFreitas	59
M. Greatbatch b Hemmings	1
M. Priest not out	23
M. Sneddon not out	0
Extras (b-1 lb-6 w-1)	8
Total (for five wickets)	171
Fall of wickets 1-16 2-75 3-110	
4-121 5-170	
Top bat: J. Bracewell, I. Smith, R. Hadlee, D. Morrison.	
Bowling to date: Small 22-7-36-1, Malcolm 19-7-48-2, Hemmings 19-647-1, DeFreitas 15-3-33-1.	

(Continued from Page 1)

Maradona plays in Italy for Napoli, which edged out AC Milan to win this year's League championship. The season was marked by bitter rivalry between Napoli and Milan.

Before the match began, fans wearing the colours of at least a dozen teams competing in the tournament marched to the stadium chanting and waving flags.

The weather unexpected turned from rainy to sunny one hour before kick-off time.

Cameroon were down to 10 men by the time Biyik scored after midfielder Andre Kan-Dip was sent off for a foul on substitute striker Claudio Caniggia.

Benjamin Massing, booked in the first half, was later shown the red card for a blatant body check on Caniggia.

Cameroon also had Akemi N'Dip and Emile M'Bouh booked while Robert Sensini was the only Argentine shown the yellow card.

Speed

The Argentines, a pale shadow of the side that won the World Cup in Mexico four years ago, were found wanting for speed by a side playing simple counter-attacking soccer.

Cameroon, with striker Benjamin Massing brilliant in fast breaks down the middle, wrought havoc in the Argentine defence while Maradona and Jorge Burruchaga failed to inspire a fourth set.

Cameroon drew their three matches in the 1982 World Cup finals in Spain, where Argentinian also crashed to a defeat by the same score to Belgium when defending their first title.

Maradona, marked by two and at times three players, had few touches of the ball and failed to inspire Argentina to a performance in keeping with their status as world champions.

Cameroon, whose game was faster and less ponderous than Argentina's, came closest to scoring midway through the half.

An attack down the middle that had the Argentine defence in disarray ended with two defenders closing in on striker Emmanuel Makana. His shot was weak and Nestor Lorenzo managed to hook the ball just wide of Nery Pumpido's left-handed post.

Argentina had the better of the early exchanges and could have

Biyik Omam scores winner

Cameroon upset Argentina



Biyik Omam of Cameroon leaps in the air to score his team's only goal. (Reuter wirephoto)

taken the lead in the fourth minute if striker Abel Balbo had not stumbled over the ball.

Goalkeeper Thomas Nkono, a veteran of the 1982 finals, blocked Nestor Fabbri's shot after the defender latched on to the loose ball.

The tournament had earlier on started with a dazzling show of Italian fashion, song and dance before a sellout crowd and a world-wide television audience.

The 25-minute extravaganza inside the towering high-tech stadium with a lattice-work roof featured 160 models wearing the creations of four noted Italian designers, three singers, 24 giant soccer balls and one giant helium balloon that looked like a soccer ball.

Sung

To the sound of the World Cup anthem "Un Estate Italiana" (an Italian summer) sung by popular recording artists Edoardo Bennato and Gianna Nannini, 300 gymnasts came on stage to perform.

Argentina President Carlos Menem appeared at the conference 35 minutes late himself in the press centre at the Meazza stadium in Milan.

But he stood talking with increasingly nervous aides for a further seven minutes on a podium in front of several hundred journalists before he was quietly whisked out to wait for Maradona in private.

Seven minutes later, Maradona arrived and sat down.

A moment or two later, Menem came in and Maradona had to be prompted by a bystander to stand and greet his country's leader formally.

Menem, who is visiting Italy to watch Maradona's team play, presented the Argentine captain with an award for "disseminating the image of Argentina abroad."

England goalkeeper Peter Shilton is poised to capture the world record for international appearances despite the claims of South Korean striker Choi Soon-Ho.

A Fifa spokesman said today that it recognised former Northern Ireland goalie Pat Jennings as holding the official record for caps with 119. Shilton has 118 and is expected to break the record during the World Cup finals.

The South Korean claim that 28-year-old Choi had played 129 times for his country could not be recognised without thorough examination, the spokesman said.

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Argentine President Carlos Menem appeared at the conference 35 minutes late himself in the press centre at the Meazza stadium in Milan.

The South Korean claim that 28-year-old Choi had played 129 times for his country could not be recognised without thorough examination, the spokesman said.

"We have asked South Korea for clarification and apparently they are sending us a document though we haven't received it yet," he added.

"We would need to examine the games he played in because we only recognise matches between the A sides of two countries, whether friendlies or in competition."

"As far as we are concerned, Jennings holds the official world record."

■ West German coach Franz Beckenbauer has blasted what he called "the old men" of Fifa for failing to change World Cup rules to allow substitutes to be



Maradona (left) finds the ball snatched from him by Cameroon's Emile Salmon. (Reuter wirephoto)



Two gardeners working on the last preparations for the opening of the World Cup. (Reuter wirephoto)

picked from all 11 players on the bench.

"Fifa is no fountain of youth. Some of the founder members are still there," Beckenbauer said today.

Soccer's world governing body, founded in 1904, drew Beckenbauer's scorn by failing to change a rule which allows substitutes to be drawn from only five pre-selected players among the 11 not included in the starting line-up.

Changed

He said all 24 national associations had wanted the rule changed before the 1986 Mexico World Cup finals but had been denied, and the same thing had just happened in Zurich.

"But when you see who's there, it's no surprise. They're all as old as each other. It's sad though," Beckenbauer said.

A Fifa spokesman said attempts to change the rules to allow all 11 reserves to be used as substitutes had always been rejected by the British-dominated international board, responsible for the laws of the game.

But he said Fifa hoped to have the rule in force in time for the 1994 finals.



Cameroon's Akam Ndip comes to Maradona's aid after kick-in on the shoulder. (Reuter wirephoto)

S. Koreans caught off guard

GARDA, Italy, June 8. (Reuters): The South Korean soccer squad have discovered that European beds are too tall.

"The beds here are short and there three or four (South Korean) players who are tall. We'll have to ask the hotel for longer beds," Ko Chung-Tok, vice-president of the Korean Football Association said yesterday.

Goalkeeper Kim Pung-Joo is the South Koreans' tallest player at 1.90 metres. Striker Choi Soon-Ho is 1.86 metres tall.

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ARAB TIMES

Editor-in-Chief
Ahmed Al Jarallah

Editorial Office:
Airport Road, Shawwaf,
P.O. Box 2270,
13023 Safat, Kuwait.

Telex:
22332 KT

Telephone:
4813566 (main lines)

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India-Pakistan dispute hits cricket schedules

NEW DELHI, June 8. (Reuters): The dispute between India and Pakistan over Kashmir has thrown their cricket tour schedules for the coming year into disarray.

A senior Indian cricket board official, who did not want to be named, told Reuters that West Indies were being approached for a tour of India in case Pakistan opted out of a scheduled series due to start in January.

He said the Kashmir issue had put the Pakistan tour of India in jeopardy.

India has already withdrawn from the lucrative Champions Cup in Sharjah in

January

"The series against Pakistan is very much on the Indian calendar and we have no plans to shelf it although we will negotiate with the West Indies to also play in India," he said.

Singh said he hoped to persuade West Indies to come to India for the tour after their team takes part in a one-day tournament in Bangladesh from November 11 to 16.

India and Pakistan are the two other nations in the Bangladesh tournament.

"We would like them to tag it (the Bangladesh tournament) with a short

series in India," Singh said.

Indian cricket officials had originally planned to persuade their West Indian counterparts at the ICC meeting in London from June 28 to 30, to drop their demand for a winter series in India and instead accept an Indian tour of the West Indies.

The Indian officials had insisted until two months ago that it was West Indies' turn to host because in the last seven years West Indies had made two tours of India while India had toured the West Indies only once.

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